



**Infantry
kicks
Airmen**

1st Battalion, 16th
Infantry, debuts in post
soccer play with 3-1 win.

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Fort Riley Post

Abandoned pets



**Post shelter
staff aghast
at needless
acts of
'throwing away'
family
pets.**

Page 13

Friday, April 14, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 49, No. 15

Around the Army

Germany:

The European Stars and Stripes reported April 13 that a German court had found the 21-year-old son of a U.S. Soldier guilty of murdering his former girlfriend and sentenced him to 15 years in prison.

The sentence was lighter than it could have been because Edward Sharpsteen was a month shy of his 21st birthday at the time of the Oct. 27 knife attack on Natascha C. Dillard.

If the court had ruled that Sharpsteen was an adult, he could have received a life sentence with the possibility of parole after 15 years. As it is, Sharpsteen will likely spend between 7½ and 10 years in jail, according to Manfred Vogel, who prosecuted the case.

For more on this story and other U.S. military news in the European and Pacific theaters, visit www.estripes.com on the Web.

Korea:

The Indianhead reported March 31 that a stolen treasure – the Manchus' Liscum Bowl – had returned to the 2nd Infantry Division Museum. The ornate bowl had been gone for two years for restoration to its original condition.

Melted silver discovered in a burned warehouse during the American Relief Expedition to China had been presented as a gift to a battalion of Marines after it and silver bars and coins had been returned to the Chinese government.

The 9th Infantry Regiment used the silver to have the bowl crafted in the same appearance to another bowl containing four imperial dragons peering over its edge.

For more on this story and other 2nd Infantry Division news in Korea, visit www.2id.korea.army.mil/ on the Web.

Fort Knox:

The Turret reported April 12 that two Fort Knox High School teenagers who love to dance will appear on the Today Show in New York after entering an online drag-contest.

Tyrone Foster and Kaneshia Scott said they leaped at the opportunity when they learned about the contest to promote the April 6 premiere of "Take the Lead," a New Line Cinema film.

For more on this story and other Fort Knox, Ky., news, visit www.thenewsenquirer.com/turret/ on the Web.

Fort Sill:

The Cannoneer reported April 6 that the Lawton, Okla., Fort Sill community would gain about 11,000 residents in the next five years as a result of three major efforts to transform the nation's military – Base Closure and Realignment, the Army Modular Force and the Integrated Global Presence and Basing Study.

The post's garrison commander said the biggest impact will be on schools and housing in the community surrounding Fort Sill.

For more on this story and other Fort Sill, Okla., news, visit www.lawton-constitution.com/cball/cannoner.htm.

Hospital plans for expected growth

By Anna Morelock

Staff writer

Irwin Army Community Hospital plans to add about 300 more people to its staff to help deal with Fort Riley's impending growth, said Hospital Commander Col. Marilyn Brooks.

About one-fourth of the new staff will be providers, such as physicians, nurses and physicians assistants. The remaining new hires will be support staff, she said.

So far, the hospital has filled about 60 percent of the positions that have opened to date and is continuing its efforts to recruit the rest, the colonel said. Those efforts include advertising in medical publications in surrounding states and holding job fairs in the area. A job fair March 27 attracted 65 potential hires. People interested in employment at IACH should visit <http://iach.amedd.army.mil/employment.asp> to find out how to apply.

Sometimes it's challenging to attract providers to the military, Brooks said.



Many of them have never had contact with military medicine. A lot of people may think the Army practices archaic medicine, but Army doctors practice state of the art medicine and come from the very best

medical schools, she added.

Another challenge in attracting people, especially from large metropolitan areas, is people's preconceived notions of Kansas.

"If you're not from here," Brooks said, "you don't realize the opportunities. It's a marvelous area to live in."

Salary may also be a factor in attracting physicians, added Deputy Commander of Clinical Services Maj. Marshall Smith. Some are used to a certain salary and may

See Future, Page 2

Aiming drills

Artillery Soldiers practice with new cannons

By Anna Morelock

Staff writer

About a month ago, Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 32nd Armor, received three of 16 M119A2 light towed howitzers from a unit in Hawaii. This month, the Soldiers began learning the ins and outs of their new portable weapons.

A lot of the Soldiers are straight out of training at Fort Sill, Okla., so the training is starting off slowly, said Sgt. 1st Class Daniel McKim, a Battery A platoon sergeant.

"Their learning curve is pretty high, but they're catching on quickly," said Capt. David Graham, Battery A commander. Most of the non-commissioned officers in the new 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team battery came from the "light community" or have used this type of howitzer before. They are doing a great job instructing the Soldiers on them, Graham added.

Artillerymen use the term "light" when referring to small cannons mounted on wheels so they can be towed behind a truck. "Heavy" artillery refers to the "big guns," such as the Paladin tracked howitzer already a familiar sight at Fort Riley.

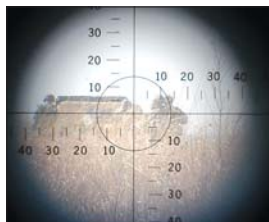
During the week of training, Soldiers ran through individual tasks to help them become more proficient in getting the weapons set up and ready to shoot. The Soldiers worked April 6 on the placement and



Post/Morelock

Above: Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, run through training exercises April 6 to help them become more efficient at setting up one of the M119A2 light towed howitzers the battalion received from a unit in Hawaii in early March. So far, the unit has received five of the 16 howitzers it will have.

At left: Looking through a sighting device, the camera shows what 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, Soldiers see when they lay the firing azimuth for the BM119A2 light towed howitzer.



See Howitzers, Page 2

Slight pay hike coming for most

New system will adjust civilian wages

By Donna Miles

AFPS

WASHINGTON – Most of the first 11,000 Defense Department civilian employees to convert to the new civilian personnel system in April will receive a pay increase, an official said March 30.

About 85 percent of people will see an initial bump in pay when they are enrolled in the new National Security Personnel System, said Joyce Frank, spokeswoman for the system.

The first employees to make the switch in "Spiral 1.1" of the phase-in process will automatically convert to the new system April 30, she said.

"No one loses pay" as they convert from the old Civil Service System to the new pay-for-performance NSPS, Frank said. Most, in fact, will qualify for a one-time, prorated within-grade increase buy-in.

Employees in Step 9 or lower of their current GS grade and with acceptable performance will receive credit toward their next scheduled within-grade step increase, Frank explained.

Buy-in based on accumulated days

The so-called WGI buy-in will be based on the number of days accumulated toward the increase and will be factored in for eligible employees before their positions are converted to pay bands.

The NSPS Web site will offer a conversion tool within the next few days so employees can determine where they will fall in the pay band system when their positions convert to NSPS, Frank said.

Another new feature on the Web site will be a Web-based training program for employees to learn about NSPS, she said.

A new publication on the Web site, to be issued in hard copy to Spiral 1.1 employees, explains details of the new system, which ultimately will affect more than 650,000 DoD civilian employees.

"HR Elements for Managers, Supervisors and Employees: A Guide to NSPS," gives employees an overview of the critical elements they need to understand as they convert to NSPS, Frank said. It covers pay increases and bonuses, pay bands and job objectives, among other topics.

'myPay' Web site blocks 'phishing'

By Gerry J. Gilmore

AFPS

WASHINGTON – No cases of computer scamming or identity theft involving the Defense Department's computerized pay services system have been reported, a Defense Finance and Accounting Service spokesman said April 4.

"There has not been any identity theft or 'phishing' scams with

the 'myPay' site," DFAS spokeswoman Carol Garcia said in a phone interview from her office in Denver. DFAS provides pay services to members of the military and DoD civilians.

Garcia said DFAS had received feedback from concerned customers about the security of financial information on the myPay Web site after the publication of a news release that offered tips on avoiding being scammed by con

artists who cruise the Internet in search of the unwary.

"I think they took that one message and misread it," Garcia said of the March 15 DFAS release.

"Phishing" is sending e-mails falsely claiming to be a legitimate enterprise as part of a scam. Information obtained this way is often used in identity theft crimes.

The myPay system safeguards customers' financial information using encryption methods and

security firewalls, officials said. Customers access myPay using a personal identification number.

"DFAS continues to stress the security of our systems and the privacy measures we take in protecting pay information," a DFAS statement released April 4 stated.

DFAS employs secure technology that "meets or exceeds security requirements in private industry worldwide," according to the statement.





Post, Army news briefly

Correction:

In the April 7 issue of the Post, the motto for 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, was stated incorrectly. The motto is "Fear God - Dreadnaught."

The Post regrets the mistake.

Court convicts deserter

On April 6, Spc. James P. Totten was tried at a General Court-Martial and found guilty of one specification of desertion for leaving his place of duty on March 11, 2006, with the intent to shirk important service, namely deployment to Iraq. Totten remained absent until March 16, 2006.

The military judge sentenced him to be reduced to private, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 18 months and to be discharged from the service with a Dishonorable Discharge.

Commanders assume posts

The 2nd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, conducted an assumption of command and responsibility ceremony April 7.

Assuming command of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop were Capt. Theron P. Ballard and 1st Sgt. Ralph L. Miller, of Troop A were Capt. Nicholas M. Cook and 1st Sgt. Richard R. Strong, of Troop B were Capt. Jerry A. Simonsen Jr. and 1st Sgt. Samuel J. Roark, and of Troop C were Capt. Thomas E. Laybourn and 1st Sgt. Corbett L. Whitmore.

The 2nd Sqdn., 4th Cav., was first constituted March 3, 1855, in the regular Army as Company B, 1st Cavalry, organized in September 1855 at Rome, N.Y. It joined the regiment Sept. 20, 1855, at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

After 10 redesignations, reorganizations and inactivations, it was reactivated with the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) in January 1987 at Fort Stewart, Ga. The 2nd Sqdn., 4th Cav., was inactivated February 1996 and then reactivated Jan. 12, 2006, as part of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley.

Broadcast wins Kansas award

Broadcast specialist Gary Nap, who works in the television branch of the post Public Affairs Office, recently won first place in Kansas Association of Broadcasters competition for television documentaries.

He filmed the documentary as a student at Kansas State University. It tells about the university's community service program.

Pre-retirement orientation set

The semi-annual pre-retirement orientation will be conducted from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 5 at Riley's Conference Center. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. at Riley's.

This orientation is for individuals who have submitted their request for retirement, however, any Soldier contemplating retirement in the near future is welcome to attend.

The purpose of the orientation is to present information concerning rights, benefits and responsibilities in conjunction with retirement. Soldiers who are eligible for early retirement because of medical reasons should also attend.

Spouses of retiring personnel and prospective retirees are invited and encouraged to attend.

For further information, stop by the Retirement Services Office in Building 210 or call 239-3320 or 239-3667.



Post/Morelock

Peering into the sight, Sgt. Jason Billings helps line up secondary aiming poles for an M119A2 light towed howitzer during a training exercise April 6. The 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, Soldiers were working on their efficiency at setting up the weapons they received from a unit in Hawaii in early March.

Howitzers

continued from page 1

recovery of aiming posts, the secondary aiming system for the howitzers.

"Once you get the crew drills down tight and everybody's working together, you get a rhythm down and everything goes smoothly," said Sgt. Roger Richards, a 1st platoon gunnery sergeant.

Richards ran through the drill with his Soldiers, stopping to explain each job.

Pvt. Devin John, the driver, relayed data from the radio to Richards.

Sgt. Jason Billings, the group's gunner, set the deflection relayed from John.

Ammunition Team Chief Pvt. Brendon Favre grabbed the correct round and verified numbers with Richards.

Cannoneers one and two, oth-

erwise known as Pvt. Tony Standeford and Pvt. Brandon Hitchings, loaded the round and closed the breech.

Although the practice run took a minute or two, when the group gets it down, the loading and firing process should take about 30 seconds, McKim said.

The toughest part is trying to remember everything you've learned, Billings said, which is more than just their one job.

Richards said he likes to make sure everyone in his team knows one job above them and one job below them because a Soldier never knows when he'll have to step in and take over another position.

"If I go down," Billings added, "the next person needs to know how to do it."

The first and second sections of

the battery also worked on lining up the weapons on their line of fire using aiming circles. "A couple (millimeters), at 10,000 meters, is more than a couple miles off," McKim said.

"Of course we don't want to miss the target. There's somebody downrange that's depending on these fires being accurate and timely," he said.

Each week the Soldier's training will take a new focus until the groups are ready to take the weapons out and fire them.

The live fire exercise will probably happen sometime in June, McKim said. Right now the groups are at a crawl stage, but soon they'll be running, he added.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at anna.morelock@riley.army.mil or 239-3032.

Future

continued from page 1

not want to take less, he explained.

One reason civilian providers may be drawn to the military hospital is because of a sense of doing their duty for their country even though they don't wear a military uniform, Smith said. They may have wanted to join the military in the past and never did, but they've still always wanted to. "Most enjoy giving something back," he said. "This is their part and they have a lot of pride in that."

Besides hiring new providers, IACH also has some facility shifting going on to accommodate increased staff and patients.

Clinical services will be moved to relocatable buildings behind the main hospital. Caldwell Clinic, a family clinic staffed by civilian providers, will open in late April on Custer Hill. The Department of Behavioral Health will relocate from its building off Huebner Road to the basement of the hospital. That building will then be turned into a dental clinic.

With all of the shifts in personnel and facilities, the most important thing is that there won't be any breaks in services provided, said Caldwell Clinic Officer-in-Charge Maj. Carla Crouch.

"It takes time to fix the problems," Brooks said, "but every day we shift and adjust to meet the needs."

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or anna.morelock@riley.army.mil.

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5 earn 'Iron Raider' distinction

By Travis Myers

2nd Sqdn., 4th Cav.

Being physically fit for the rigors of combat is a requirement in every military unit. In the cavalry, the standards are uniquely high. The 2nd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment's, "Iron Raider" competition that began April 4 emphasized that fact.

The competition is a physical test that stresses all the body's

major muscle groups. The standards are set high to include a minimum of 80 push-ups, 80 sit-ups, 12 pull-ups, 15 dips and a sub-21-minute 3-mile run.

The goal of the competition is to have Soldiers strive for excellence, explained one Cav official. Those who meet the "Iron Raider" standards are awarded the commander's coin, a certificate of achievement, a three-day pass and a unique "Iron Raider" unit T-

shirt.

More than 20 Soldiers competed. Only five met the demands of the "Iron Raider" competition: Lt. Col. James Crider, battalion commander; Maj. Craig Manville, battalion plans, operations and training officer; Staff Sgt. Gustavo Rodriguez; Pfc. Justin Miller and Pvt. Corey Knecht.

The order of events is much like the Army Physical Fitness Test. Soldiers received credit for

an APFT, if they chose to take a split-time at the 2-mile marker.

Most of the troopers competing were found lacking in only one event. The competition is designed to provide an opportunity for the troopers in top physical condition to excel and set an example for others who are striving to exceed the standard.

Troopers are given the opportunity to become an "Iron Raider" each quarter.

Post, Army news briefly

Storm water class slated

The Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, staff has scheduled a storm water pollution prevention course for April 20.

One class will be taught from 8 a.m. to noon and a second will be taught from 1 to 5 p.m., both in Room 6 of Building 407.

This course provides an overview on regulatory background and framework; enforcement actions; Fort Riley's Storm Water Management, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans, recordkeeping; sampling procedures; construction site inspections; and storm water and erosion controls at construction sites.

Instruction modules are geared toward construction contractor quality control staff. Corps of Engineers construction representatives and Directorate of Public Works engineers and natural resources personnel.

For more information or to enroll in this class, call 239-0446.

Information ops to recruit officers

The U.S. Army Information Operations Proponent will conduct a Fort Riley information and recruiting visit from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 8 and from 8 a.m. to noon May 9 in Room 11 of Learning Center 2, Building 7656 on Custer Hill.

Representatives from USAIOP and Human Resources Command-Alexandria will give an overview briefing for officers interested in learning about Functional Area 30 (Information Operations) and the Career Field Designation process.

For an appointment or additional information, send e-mail to Henry.David.Pendleton@us.army.mil or call (913) 684-

5320 (DSN 552-5320). Walk-ins throughout both days will be accepted.

Severe weather training offered

Members of the Fort Riley Installation Safety Office are available for severe weather safety training. Training covers indicators of severe weather, developing emergency action plans and other safety tips.

To arrange a class date, time and location, call the safety office at 239-2514.

Recycling earns units awards

Small unit Troop Incentive Program winners for the second quarter of fiscal year 2006 were:

1st - 1001st Military Police Battalion, \$750
2nd - Dental Activity, \$500
3rd - 15th Finance, \$250

Medium unit Troop Incentive Program winners for the second quarter of fiscal year 2006 were:

1st - Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1ST Brigade, \$1,000
2nd - Headquarters and Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison, \$750
3rd - 70th Engineer Battalion, \$500

Large units Troop Incentive Program winners for the second quarter of fiscal year 2006 were:

1st - 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, \$1,250
2nd - 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, \$1,000
3rd - 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, \$750

The Reserve unit Troop Incentive Program winner for the second quarter of fiscal year 2006 was 2nd Battalion, 289th Regiment (TSB) (FA), \$750.

'Dreadnaughts' welcome new commanding officer

Staff report

Lt. Col. David T. Seigel assumed command of the "Dreadnaughts" from Lt. Col. Oscar J. Hall IV April 5.

The 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, change of command ceremony took place a few weeks after Hall and the "Dreadnaughts" returned to Fort Riley from a tour in Iraq.

Hall took command of the "Dreadnaughts" May 30, 2003. Hall has been selected for advanced civil schooling at Harvard.

Seigel, who grew up in Warrensburg, Mo., received his commission as an armor officer from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., in 1989. His first assignment took him to the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, at Fort Hood, Texas.

He served with that unit as a tank platoon leader in Saudi Arabia and Iraq during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm and later served as the battalion's scout platoon leader and battalion maintenance officer.

A move to Heidelberg, Germany, came next for Seigel. He served there as the V Corps G3.

Following that assignment,



Lt. Col. David Seigel



Battalion crest

Seigel served as a combat analyst at the Training and Doctrine Command Analysis Center and then as the aide-de-camp to the Command and General Staff College.

After attending Command

and General Staff Officer Course and the School of Advanced Military Studies, Seigel returned to Fort Hood and 1st Bn., 8th Cav., where he served as the battalion S3, battalion executive officer and as a 1st Cavalry Division G3 plans officer. He later served as the brigade executive officer and then deputy commanding officer of 1st Brigade, 1st Cav. Div.

Seigel deployed to Iraq as part of OIF II in March 2004, where he served at battalion and brigade levels in southern and eastern Baghdad.

Since moving to Fort Riley in July 2005, and before taking command of 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, Seigel served as the 1st Bde., 1st Infantry Division, deputy commander.

Seigel's awards and decorations include two Bronze Star Medals, a Parachutist Badge and a Combat Action Badge.

He and his wife, Stephanie, have five children: Laura, Katie, Luke, Daniel and Joseph.

Editor's note: Battalion changes of command stories are written from ceremony programs. Units should provide programs to the Post newspaper if they want the story printed.

Fort Knox will host symposium

Army News Service

FORT KNOX, Ky. - Fort Knox, Ky., will host the Armor Warfighting Symposium May 15-19.

The symposium combines briefings and discussion panels with vendor displays of vehicles and other products. It also provides updates on the current status and future direction of the Armor and Cavalry force.

Highlights will include program updates on the Abrams, Stryker and Bradley vehicles, an update on the Maneuver Center for Excellence and panels discussing current lessons learned in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 11th annual Frederick M. Franks Award will be presented on May 17 to a mounted active-duty or reserve officer, noncommissioned officer or a Department of the Army civilian who has demonstrated a longtime contribution to Army ground-fighting and war-fighting capabilities.

In keeping with this year's conference theme, "Mounted Warriors for a Nation at War," consideration will be given to the nominee's contributions towards the tactics, techniques and procedures in the current war environment.

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Pittard prepares for new mission with 1st Inf. Div.

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

A new duty assignment will keep the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) assistant division commander for maneuver based at Fort Riley, but he'll spend probably a year away from home — in Iraq.

Late this summer, Brig. Gen. Dana Pittard is slated to become assistant division commander of the 1st Infantry Division, scheduled to move back to Fort Riley from Germany about the same time.

Pittard's new position includes responsibilities as commander, Iraq Assistance Group, Multi-National Corps-Iraq. The Iraq Assistance Group will oversee the Coalition transition teams that will be embedded with Iraqi security forces, he said.

"Right now, there are 11 different types of these teams, (including) MiTTs, Military Transition Teams, which some of our forces from Fort Riley are already doing embedded in the Iraqi Army. "There is the Special Police Transition Teams, or SpTTs, as they're called, embedded with the Iraqi police."

Many more transition teams will be trained at Fort Riley beginning this summer and then deploy for tours in Iraq. The transition teams will include members of all U.S. branches of military service and a good number of experts from other countries, Pittard said.

The Iraqi units will have operational control of the

embedded teams. The AIG will ensure the teams are supported logistically, he explained.

The new assignment will be vastly different from what Pittard has been doing for the 24th Inf. Div. As ADCM, Pittard oversaw unit training that prepared Fort Riley Soldiers to fight the Global War on Terrorism. Now, he will be directly involved with the nation's exit strategy to the warfight, transitioning Iraqi security forces to assume the warfight.

"Because part of our victory strategy, or you can call it our exit strategy from Iraq, has to do with standing up and

making sure the Iraqi security forces can stand up on their own and win against this insurgency, that will be a major part of our mission," he explained.

Thinking back on his assignment at Fort Riley, so far, Pittard said he was pleased about a number of things: "The flexibility in which our training is more fighting focused, the way the community supports our Soldiers, how well our staff here, both Soldiers and civilians, have been able to positively react to all the changes that have taken place during the past nine months."

He listed changes including the remissioning of the 1st Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., the expected arrival of a combat aviation brigade, the impending relocation of the 1st Inf. Div. headquarters, the creation of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the transition team training mission "plopped on top of all that."



Brig. Gen.
Pittard

Study shows troops get help

By Jerry Harben
Army News Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Soldiers and Marines who are disturbed by the stress of the war in Iraq are receiving mental health services early after their return, helping prevent development of serious conditions, according to a recently released study.

"A high percentage are using mental health services," said Col. Charles W. Hoge, director of the department of psychiatry and neuroscience at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

"A portion of these people receive diagnosis of mental health problems, but the majority do not. We think a lot of care is related to screening, prevention and milder conditions that may not require lengthy treatment," Hoge said.

"A majority of these Soldiers receive their mental health care early after returning, which is what we encourage them to do," he added.

Study highlighted in medical journal

Hoge was lead author on the study, collaborating with Col. Charles S. Milliken, also of WRAIR, and Jennifer L. Auchterlonie from the Army Medical Surveillance Activity of the Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. Their report is published in the March 1 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The study looked at records of 303,905 Soldiers and Marines who completed a Post-Deployment Health Assessment between

May 1, 2003, and April 30, 2004. This included 222,620 who had deployed to Iraq and others who deployed to Afghanistan or other locations. The study used records maintained in the Defense Medical Surveillance System database.

A screening process for Soldiers returning from deployment is intended to detect physical or mental problems that need correction, officials said.

Soldiers undergo this Post-Deployment Health Assessment when they return. They answer written questions and confer with a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

In addition, Soldiers now have a reassessment three to six months later to detect issues that are not immediately apparent. Records used for the current study, though, were compiled before the second reassessments began, officials pointed out.

Overall, 19 percent of Soldiers and Marines returning from the first deployment of Operation Iraqi Freedom reported a mental health concern on the PDHA. That was a higher percentage than those who deployed to Afghanistan or other areas.

Concerns included symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression symptoms or concerns about interpersonal con-

licts, aggression or thoughts of suicide.

Treatment often for minor problems

About 4 percent of study participants were referred for mental health services, but a referral does not mean that person has a serious mental health condition, Hoge said.

"Because of answers on the screening form, a primary care professional thinks it would be good for this person to see a mental health professional," is how Hoge described a referral.

"A lot of people documented as using mental health services don't have serious conditions," he added. "I think a large portion of this falls in the category of prevention. We're trying to get help to people early so long-term conditions do not develop."

Records show about 54 percent of those referred for mental health services were documented receiving follow-up care, which Hoge said is a high figure and probably understates the amount of care actually received.

"In any primary care practice, many people referred don't come in to see mental health," he said.

"Referral in the military system could include seeing a chaplain,

family support services or using the MilitaryOneSource service — a toll-free phone number, (800) 342-9647. Soldiers can call for assistance) — that would not be counted in the medical system. We think the figure of documented care is quite high."

35 percent back from Iraq use services

About 35 percent of Soldiers and Marines returning from Iraq used mental health services within a year after their return. These services included evaluations and preventive services. About 12 percent were diagnosed with mental health problems, officials said.

"Almost everyone who deploys to a war zone is affected in some way," Hoge said. "We know from several studies that 20 to 30 percent of Soldiers who have experienced combat will report symptoms such as sleep disturbance, anxiety, irritability or increased alcohol use."

"These often are normal reactions that will improve over time," Hoge said. However, he added, "Soldiers may need help if symptoms persist or interfere with their work or occupational functioning."

Jerry Harben writes for the U.S. Army Medical Command.

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Commentary

Friday, April 14, 2006

Fort Riley Post

Page 5

Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

What is your favorite warm-weather pastime, and where do you recommend people go to enjoy what you do?



"My favorite pastime would be going to a drive-in movie. I would recommend people go to the movie in the park in Junction City.

Linda Clark
Program assistant
Child Development Center



"My favorite pastime is running in the park. I would recommend to go running at the Riverwalk."

Staff Sgt. Heidi Curry
382nd Logistics Support Battalion



"My favorite pastime is barbecuing with my family. I would recommend people going out to Milford Lake."

Lynnette Hartzell
Military spouse



"My favorite pastime was waiting for school to get out, because my parents would take us to Six Flags. I would recommend people go to Worlds of Fun or Great Wolf Lodge."

Glenda Holland
Program assistant
Child Development Center.



"My favorite pastime would be walking my dog in the woods. I would recommend someone to walk their dog down on the Riverwalk outside of Fort Riley."

Sgt. 1st Class Lisa Smith
648th Area Support Group

Next week's question:

Fort Riley will observe Days of Remembrance April 26, relating to the Jewish holocaust. Some people say the holocaust never happened. How would you respond to that opinion?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to the editor at 239-2592.

Command viewpoint

U.S. must work on winning ideology war

Editor's note: The following comments were made by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld during a question and answer session following his March 27 address to students and faculty at the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., and a March 28 Pentagon news briefing, both reported in an American Forces Press Service article written by Donna Miles.

The United States needs to improve in how it is faring in the war of ideology against violent extremism.

If I were grading, I would say we probably deserve a D or a D-minus as a country as to how well we are doing in the battle of ideas taking place in the world today. I'm not going to suggest that it is easy, but we have not found the formula as a country. That's a major shortcoming in this age of video cameras, 24-



Secretary Rumsfeld

hour talk shows, blogs, e-mails and the Internet. These new technologies have speeded up the way people communicate and, in many cases, amplified their message because it reaches multiple audiences.

The problem is that we have not yet adapted to all of these new realities that exist, and we are going to have to do a much better job at it. It's a lot easier to get out in front of a story if you don't let the facts get in the way, something the enemy has become quite good at. Enemy "spinners" manipulate the media to get their

distortions out quickly, while the truth is still putting its boots on. If we jump out and make a mistake, there's a penalty for it, not so for the enemy.

Clearly, the U.S. government has not gotten to the point where it's as deft, clever, facile and quick as the enemy. Another part of the problem is that the United States is so concerned about self-promotion that it too often leaves it to others to define it, sometimes in inaccurate or unflattering ways.

This is a wonderful country, with its generosity, tolerance and acceptance of diversity. But it's often characterized by others in unfortunate ways. That makes it tougher for the country to advance its causes.

When people are leaning toward you, things are easy. When people are leaning away from you, things are much more difficult.

Yet, every time the United States tries to do anything that would communicate something positive about what we are doing in the world, we are criticized in the press and in the Congress, and the self-examination process begins again.

The United States has some work to do to improve the way it communicates with the world, on terror, a war that ultimately boils down to a war of conflicting ideologies.

It's a battle, not between the West and the Muslim world, but rather, between a small number of violent extremists and the majority of the Muslim world who don't share their views or methods. And we are going to have to find ways to encourage and support those moderate voices, because they are the ones who are in the struggle.

Tips for getting in shape

Warm weather requires exercise caution

By Nichole Charbonneau
LACH Co. Commander

The birds are chirping, the tulips are budding, the sun is shining... this can only mean one thing, aside from it's time for the semi-annual physical training test.

It's time for spring sports: golf, tennis, outdoor running without five layers of clothes, running the bleachers at Kansas State University, Konza prairie hikes, 100-mile bike rides and the return of visits to Irwin Army Community Hospital's Physical Therapy or Orthopedics Clinics



FOR YOUR HEALTH

for therapy following a fall, a sprain or a pulled muscle.

Here are a few guidelines to help keep active spring sports participants in the game and hopefully avoiding the need to visit the hospital:

Stay hydrated. Drink two to three liters (eight to 12 cups) of cool refreshing water throughout the day. Add flavor, not calories,

with drink mixes or sliced lemons.

During activity, drink six to 12 ounces of water every 15 to 20 minutes. When finished, weigh and drink 16 to 24 ounces for each pound lost during activity.

Limit "sports" drinks to high intensity days when exercise lasts longer than 60 to 90 minutes or on very hot humid days.

Fill a cooler with healthy snacks instead of stopping at the convenience store. Try unsalted almonds, peanut butter or turkey sandwiches on 100 percent whole wheat bread, fresh or dried fruit, low-fat yogurt, whole grain cere-

als, cottage cheese, turkey jerky, string cheese, vegetables and low fat dip or hummus.

To keep energy levels high, try to eat a very small meal or snack every three to four hours. Aim for a balance of complex carbohydrate, lean protein and a small amount of fat for each meal or snack.

For example, try half a pita with tuna salad made with low fat mayonnaise and vegetables as a snack. Limit "treat" foods, such as chocolate, candy, cookies or cake, to one small item per day to satisfy your sweet tooth and keep your calories in check.

The Army's Story

April's Soldiers mag focuses on 'Earth'

Americans will celebrate the 36th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22, and to mark the event, the April issue of Soldiers magazine is focusing on the Army's continuing commitment to protect the environment while training for the future and carrying out today's important missions.

First up is an interview with Addison Davis, the Army's deputy assistant secretary for the environment, safety and occupational health. The interview challenges Soldiers to focus on resource conservation and lists this year's winners of the environmental stewardship awards.

The issue also takes a look at how Soldiers and civilians at Fort Bragg, N.C., have built an "Iraqi village" training center using mostly materials salvaged from a local landfill.

Other environmental stories focus on protecting forests and preserving historic sites at Fort Drum, N.Y., and the dramatic return of the red-cockaded woodpecker to Fort Bragg and Fort Jackson, S.C.

This issue also focuses on Hawaii, where the Army Corps of Engineers has a Pacific-wide mission that includes activities diverse as roadway or building construction, disaster relief, or civil works and training programs.

A Hawaii-based story looks at the National Guard's efforts to help local law enforcement agencies fight the war on drugs.

On military training, the magazine takes readers to the 101st Airborne Division's air assault school at Fort Campbell, Ky., where trainees conquer obstacle courses and learn fast rope techniques to exit a helicopter.

Last in the April issue is a story on "Four-Footed Heroes," military working dogs that are doing their part to fight the war on terror.

Soldiers, the Army's official magazine, depends on writers in the field to tell local stories to the Army-wide audience. If you have a story idea or want to contribute stories or photos to the magazine, contact an editor at soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.

Grunt

By Wayne Ulden

WHEN I LIVED IN AN APARTMENT AND HAD PLUMBING PROBLEMS, I ONLY HAD TO CALL THE LANDLORD... BUT NOW THAT I'M BUYING MY OWN HOUSE, I FIRST CALL TO GET A LOAN...



FORT RILEY POST

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What are your concerns or suggestions for improvement?

Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas): _____



Astronaut 'deploys' to space

Army colonel begins six-month mission aboard station

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — U.S. Army Col. Jeffrey N. Williams launched March 29 from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on a two-day flight to the International Space Station some 230 miles from earth.

Flight engineer for Expedition 13, Williams is joined by Pavel Vinogradov of Russia and Marcos Pontes of Brazil.

The crew will conduct a variety of scientific experiments, to include studying the effects of long-term weightlessness.

"It is important that we dedicate time and effort to understand-

ing the impacts of a weightless environment on the human body because the space station's primary purpose, of course, is ... to send crews back to the moon for a long duration and, of course, on to Mars," Williams said in a pre-flight interview with NASA.

While Williams and Vinogradov will be aboard the station for six months, Pontes will spend eight days conducting research before returning with the Expedition 12 crew.

Later, space shuttle Discovery will bring astronaut Thomas Reiter of Germany to the outpost, which will restore the station's crew to three members for the first time since the Columbia accident in February 2003.

As Discovery approaches for docking, Williams will take photographs of the shuttle doing a 360 degree somersault.

"Part of the aftermath of the Columbia accident was the realization that we need to understand that if damage occurs to the shuttle during ascent, it might endanger the vehicle during the subsequent part of the mission, and in particular, entry," Williams said.

"We don't have sensors or cameras on the ground during the ascent that can detect all of the potential things that may happen, particularly to the underside of the orbiter," he added.

Williams — who conducted a seven-hour space walk during a 10-day mission onboard Atlantis

in May 2000 — also will conduct spacewalks to replace and install station components during his current stay.

The ISS is only half built and has been under continuous construction since 1998.

"It's a privilege and honor to be a part of it. The steps are sometimes slower than we would like, but every step, I believe and hope, is important," the astronaut said.

A West Point graduate, Williams began his Army career in the infantry but soon afterward attended flight school. He was selected for the astronaut program in 1996.

Information gathered from NASA press releases.



NASA photo

Astronaut Jeffrey N. Williams, Expedition 13 NASA space station science officer and flight engineer, is submerged in the waters of the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory at the Johnson Space Center. Williams is wearing a training version of the Extravehicular Mobility Unit space suit. Divers (out of frame) were in the water to assist the crew members in their rehearsal, intended to help prepare them for work on the exterior of the International Space Station.

Soldiers in space chat with Schoomaker

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — From 220 nautical miles out in space, while passing over the tip of South America in the International Space Station, Army astronauts Col. Jeffrey Williams and retired Col. William McArthur spoke with Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker in a live broadcast April 6.

McArthur, commander of Expedition 12, met up with Williams March 31 after a two-day trip aboard the Soyuz capsule. Williams is serving as the flight engineer for Expedition 13, whose crew will spend the next

six months conducting space walks, research and constructing the outpost.

"The biggest thing we're doing, of course, is trying to demonstrate that people can live and work in space, in an environment that is innately hostile to human beings," McArthur told Schoomaker. "At the same time, we're gathering information that will enable even more effective support for longer durations of space flight," he said.

McArthur added that his Army experience prepared him well for his job as an astronaut.

"Our Army experience has prepared us extremely well to do this. I think we bring a real operational flavor to this job, the idea that you

put mission first," he said.

Williams told the CSA that he and his crew would conduct maintenance of the space station until they continue assembly, when the space shuttles resume flights in the summer.

"The bean counters say it takes almost three people full-time just to run and operate the station, and we've been doing it with two for several years now. This keeps us busy," Williams told the general.

"We're also able to squeeze in some research and science, primarily to support future exploration since we plan to go back to the moon and eventually to Mars," he said.

Schoomaker asked what the crew was able to see from the

space station.

"As we go around the southern tip of South America it's very visible, we can see the Andes, then we're crossing Argentina and can see the Falkland Islands," he said.

"Deserts are very distinctive whether you're over the vast uninhabited parts of Australia or the North African terrain, the Sahara Desert ... the textures and colors are all different, coastlines are very distinctive," he added.

"We have a great deal of pride and respect for you and your accomplishments, so thanks so much for your service. We wish you a safe time, an enjoyable time and great success on your mission," Schoomaker said.

Pentagon Memorial fundraising approaches halfway mark

By Donna Miles
AFPS

WASHINGTON — Fundraising for a memorial to the 184 people killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attack on the Pentagon is nearing the halfway point in raising the almost \$21 million needed to begin construction.

More than \$10.2 million has been raised for the project, reported Jim Laychak, president of the Pentagon Memorial Fund.

"It's amazing to see the progress we've made in the last 12 months," said Laychak, whose brother, David, was an Army civilian employee killed in the attack. "We've gone from paper to prototype and now to the early stages of construction activities."

During the next two years, fundraisers will focus on corporations, foundations and other large donors in hopes of collecting donations of \$150,000 or more, Laychak said. Booz Allen Hamil-

ton, a company that lost three people in the attack, recently donated \$450,000 to the project, and BearingPoint, Inc., recently donated \$150,000, he said.

While focusing on larger donations, Laychak said smaller, private gifts are important as well. He noted the success of an option offered on the Pentagon Memorial Fund Web site that enables people to donate \$9 a month for 11 months.

"We want all Americans to feel

that they are a part of this effort," he said. "This will be a historic memorial."

In addition to the rest of the construction costs, fundraisers plan to raise a \$10 million endowment to provide care and maintenance of the site, Laychak said.

The Pentagon Memorial Park will be built on a 2-acre site at the Pentagon, just outside the spot where terrorists crashed the hijacked American Airlines Flight 77 into the building.

The design includes 184 illu-

minated benches representing each of the victims killed, with lighted reflecting pools beneath each bench. Concept designer Julie Beckman called these "the most personal component and heart" of the project.

While fundraising continues, designers are fine-tuning their plans. "The designs for details of the memorial park, such as the lighting, landscaping and water systems, are nearing completion," Laychak said, "and we are on the verge of breaking ground to pre-

pare the site for the construction of the memorial."

The goal is to have the project completed by fall 2008, he said.

When completed, the memorial will offer a lasting tribute to those killed in the Sept. 11 Pentagon attack, Laychak said. He noted that it will serve as a place to remember those who died and to bring comfort and a sense of reflection for those left behind.

For more information about the memorial fund or to donate, visit the organization's Web site.

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Black Only
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Army, Air Force to develop cargo aircraft

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – A new Joint Cargo Aircraft, designed to enhance the combat readiness of the Army and the Air Force will be developed by a combined team, officials of both services announced March 17. Fielding of the new aircraft is expected within two years.

The Request for Proposals was released March 17 after the Acquisition Strategy Report was signed that morning. A Joint Program Office comprised of personnel from both branches of service will open Oct. 1 in Huntsville, Ala., with the Army taking the lead.

"This is a big day for both of us in terms of joint cooperation and capability," said Brig. Gen. Stephen D. Mundt, Army Aviation director. "This aviation program is going to bring tremendous capability to both of our services and, more importantly, to the Department of Defense."

Air Force Brig. Gen. Andrew Dichter, deputy director of Operational Capability Requirements, underscored Mundt's enthusiasm for the new program and added

that the program is an important example of the value of the joint capability and integration system.

"The Army and the Air Force have not always agreed, particularly at the beginning of this program," he said. "But joint doctrine has always provided the ability for each service to have organic lift capability: the Army's Shermans, the Marine Corps' KC-130 and the Navy's COD are good examples of this. And the Air Force and the Army are committed to taking the new Joint Cargo Aircraft program, develop this important capability and deliver it to the joint warfighter."

He said the Air Force has accepted the Army's need to recapitalize its aging fleet and that

the Air Force identified a need for a light cargo aircraft to transform itself because of mutual interdependencies and to be used for Homeland Defense missions and to support civil authorities in disasters or crises.

New aircraft will be key capability

"The aircraft we field will provide a key capability to the joint force commander," Dichter said. "For 59 years, the Air Force has been the service provider of intra-theater airlift, and for approximately 40 years, we've done that with essentially one airplane – the C-130."

While the C-17 performs a limited

intra-theater role, Dichter added, the Air Force was long overdue in diversifying its intra-theater airlift fleet.

The challenge, he said, is to transform the air fleet with the limited dollars available to meet the transformational needs of all the services and combatant commanders.

"The Air Force is prepared to meet that challenge," Dichter said, "and fielding this Joint Cargo Aircraft capability along with the Army is a significant step toward that goal."

On the Army side, Mundt said the new aircraft would replace what he called a "very, very old and tired airframe in terms of the C-23 Sherpa, C-12 and C-26. Our

Soldiers deserve better than that. We can also get them off the roads so they don't have to be exposed to improvised explosive devices."

The Air Force leads the world in the ability to perform operational and strategic intra-theater lift, he said. But because of the changing battlefield, the brigade combat teams modularity and the logistics concept of support changing to a push system, the Army needs additional intra-theater lift capability to fill the last tactical mile.

"Historically," Mundt said, "the Air Force does not perform missions in the tactical spectrum down to that point. Tactical wheeled vehicles and helicopters have performed that role." Com-

bining the two aircraft was a natural step because of the similarities in the capability gaps of each service, he added.

The Air Force and the Army have agreed that the aircraft each needs will have the same basic platform with some intra-service requirements.

The two services are developing a memorandum of agreement that outlines missions, roles, command and control, service responsibilities and the way ahead for doctrine, organizations, training, maintenance, logistics, leadership, personnel and facilities, Mundt said.

He anticipates that an MOA will be approved by each service's vice chief of staff by May 1.

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ST. XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL
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Black Only
2x4 Kindergarten Round up

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Black Only
2x4 First Assembly/God April

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Black Only
2x2 Candlewood Health Mar TF

DAILY UNION
6 x 12.5"
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Post, Army news briefly

Drinking water report available

Fort Riley's annual consumer confidence report shows the post's drinking water met or surpassed all federal and state drinking water regulations in 2005.

The report is posted on the Internet at www.riley.army.mil. From the Fort Riley Web page, click on Services, then Fort Riley Services and then the Environmental page. That page will have a link for "Quality of Tap Water Report."

Fort Riley and other public water suppliers must provide this information based on Safe Drinking Water Act requirements. Subsequent reports will be prepared by July 1 each year. Information about the report can be obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, (800) 426-4791.

For more information, Fort Riley consumers also can call David Jones in the Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, at 239-2630.

ROTC program tops in region

Kansas State University's Army ROTC program has been selected as the U.S. Army Cadet Command's Western Region as recipient of the "Outstanding Army ROTC Unit Award" for this year.

This award is sponsored by the national Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, established in 1896. The top ROTC program from each of the Eastern (132 ROTC programs) and Western (140 Army ROTC programs) Regions of

the country are selected. Wheaton College is Eastern Region recipient.

The criteria used to determine the top programs in America among Army ROTC programs are:

- Number and quality of commissioned officer graduates
- Military student retention rates
- Results of a comprehensive inspection of the department
- Number of scholarship awards and utilization
- Cadet success rates at national leadership summer camps

Army offers \$1,000 reward

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the theft of a black 2005 Roadhog trailer, serial number

1F9FS10105K191016; a blue 2004 Yamaha YFZ450SL All Terrain Vehicle (ATV), Vehicle Identification Number JY4AJ11Y34C008981; and a blue 2005 Yamaha YFM50RTL ATV, VIN J4AH12V8SC015534.

The trailer and ATVs were stolen between 1 p.m. March 17, 2006, and noon March 20, 2006, from the parking lot adjacent to Building 7081 on Fort Riley.

Anyone with information concerning this incident should call Special Agent Shane Nisbet, Fort Riley CID office, (785) 239-3308, or the military police at (785) 239-6767.

Army prohibits body armor

Non-standard items determined unsafe for warfight use

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**
AFPS

WASHINGTON — U.S. Soldiers deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq are prohibited from wearing non-standard-issue body armor, a senior Army officer told reporters March 31.

Parents of Soldiers serving in overseas combat zones "ought to feel comfortable with the fact and know ... that we have provided the best body armor that is available anywhere in the world," said Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, the Army secretary's deputy assistant for acquisition and systems management.

Superiority claims found uncertified

Claims of superiority voiced by some manufacturers whose body armor isn't certified for Soldiers' use are just claims, Sorenson said at a Pentagon news conference. Such equipment, he said, hasn't been tested or evaluated.

"They have not passed the rigor that we put into standards

determining whether something is safe, effective and suitable," Sorenson said.

"And, until such time that they can do that, we will not give them, if you will, the 'Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval,'" Sorenson insisted.

Sorenson referred to an Army safety message dated March 17 that directs commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure their Soldiers wear only Army tested and approved body armor.

Commanders have 30 days after receipt of the message to conduct inspections to see that Soldiers are in compliance, according to information in the message.

The message also cautioned commanders that some Soldiers might be wearing a specific brand of non-Army-certified body armor that hasn't undergone standardized testing procedures, a commercial body armor called "Dragon Skin," made by Pinnacle Armor.

Sorenson confirmed that Dragon Skin currently is not authorized for Soldiers' wear.

The manufacturer has received

Army funding to develop lighter-weight body armor. However, that system has yet to be subjected to Army certification tests.

Army stocks sufficient supply

Plenty of standard issue body armor is available for Soldiers serving in overseas combat zones, Sorenson said.

In fact, more than 200,000 sets of tested and authorized body armor have been forwarded to U.S. military theaters of operation, he said.

Some Soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq have complained about

the heavy weight of the body armor now being issued. Sorenson said the Army continues to address such Soldier concerns.

Providing Soldiers more comfortable and effective body armor "is what everybody is interested in," he said.

Meanwhile, the Army continues to examine "all types of composites, all types of materials" in the search for better body armor, he said.

"So, this is just a constant evolution. And, if someone finds the 'holy grail' (of body armor), then we'll be right there to back up the dump truck and buy it," Sorenson said.

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Black Only
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Soldier Show's cast begins rehearsals

By Tim Hipps

Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The cast and crew of the 2006 U.S. Army Soldier Show have been selected for "Reveille: Answering the Call."

Eight veterans of the Army's Margaret "Skippy" Lynn Stars of Tomorrow Talent Contest and the Military Idol contest are among 18 performers and five technicians who will deliver a 90-minute song and dance production to Army installations in the United States and Europe.

Spc. Richard Sianoya of Fort Irwin, Calif., finished runner-up in the inaugural Military Idol competition. Spc. Serri Sheridan of Fort Polk, La., the best-of-show runner-up in the 2006 Stars of Tomorrow Contest, also competed in Military Idol.

First Lt. Sonya Moore of the California Army National Guard participated in both programs in 2005.

Sgt. Geno Nash of Fort Hood, Texas, and Spc. Adel Nammour of Yongsan, Korea, also competed in

Stars of Tomorrow, as did Pfc. Jong-Baek Yoon, a member of the Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army. KATUSA Soldiers are fully integrated into a U.S. Army unit and live, work and train with their American comrades.

"I just wanted the guy to come and represent his unit, but it's turned into representing his entire country, the Republic of Korea," Soldier Show artistic director Victor Hurtado said. "He has one of the most phenomenal vocal instruments I've ever heard."

Other Military Idol contestants include Staff Sgt. Deneen Murray of Camp Humphries, Korea, and Spc. Lucky Tagalao of Fort Hood.

Hurtado spotted Hawaii Army National Guardsman Staff Sgt. Samuel Hesch during auditions for "Miss Saigon" and noted that he bypassed a role in "Cats" to perform in the Soldier Show.

Spc. Elisabeth Graham of Fort Jackson, S.C., is a violinist, and Spc. Nina Kazibwe, stationed in Kitzingen, Germany, is a brilliant pianist, Hurtado said.

Iowa Army Reservist Staff Sgt. Laura Snyder, 1st Lt. Alisha

Vaughn of Fort Stewart, Ga.; and Spcs. Maceo Keeling of Fort Lee, Va.; John Morris of Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Alisha Osborne of the New York Army Reserves; Jessica Solorio of Wuerzburg, Germany; and Benjamin Piel of Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., complete the list of performers.

Sgt. Kristen Austin of Fort Bliss, Texas, is the wardrobe technician. Capt. Christine Lancia of Fort Polk, La., will serve as assistant stage manager. Sgt. Jewel Washington of Fort Lewis, Wash., will handle video and audio. Spc. Daniel Murray of Fort Hood is an audio specialist. Spc. Bradford Cassels of Fort Bragg, N.C., will man the lights. The selections were made following compulsory March 6-11 and a live audition March 12 at Fort Belvoir, Va. The six-month "entertainment for the Soldier, by the Soldier" tour will begin May 5 at Fort Belvoir's Wallace Theater.

Tim Hipps writes for the Army's Community and Family Support Center.



First Lt. Alisha Vaughn of Fort Stewart, Ga., earns a spot in the 2006 U.S. Army Soldier Show during auditions March 12 at Wallace Theater on Fort Belvoir, Va. Vaughn says her vocal inspiration comes from the voice of Mahalia Jackson, who was known as "The Queen of Gospel Song." Photo by Ralph Nordenhold, USACFSC

Voting assistance officers trained

By Anna Morelock

Staff writer

This year, Americans will elect 33 U.S. senators, the entire 435 member U.S. House of Representatives, 37 governors and thousands of local officers. Army voting assistance officers are available to help Soldiers and their families with issues such as regis-

tering to vote, absentee voting and finding information on candidates.

Fifty-four Soldiers participated in the Federal Voting Assistance Program's voting assistance officer workshop March 24 at Riley's Conference Center. During the workshop, the new VAOs learned how to equip people with what they need to know, said 1st Lt. Darrel Fair, assistant to Fort

Riley's senior VAO.

The job of the primary and alternate VAOs for each unit is to provide voters with information about elections and voting as well as to encourage Soldiers to vote. Thanks in part to the voting assistance program and the VAOs, the FVAP reported that the voting participation rate among members of the military rose to 79 percent in 2004.

In comparison, the voting participation rate among the general population in 2004 was 64 percent.

Soldiers and family members with voting questions should see their unit VAO or visit the FVAP Web site at www.fvap.gov.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at anna.morelock@riley.army.mil or 239-3032.

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Black Only
2x10 Opat Homeowners

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Black Only
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Women holding their own in DoD work force

By Rudi Williams
AFPS

WASHINGTON — Women throughout history would be proud of what today's community of DoD women has accomplished, a top DoD personnel official said March 21.

DoD employees are among the nation's finest visionaries, dream makers and community builders, which coincides with this year's Women's History Month theme, "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams," Marilee Fitzgerald, principal director of the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Civilian Personnel Policy, said during the DoD observance of Women's History Month at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in the nation's capital.

"Your distinguished military careers and exceptional federal civilian service are an inspiration to men and women around the nation," she said.

That's particularly true, Fitzgerald said, for those "who are making incalculable sacrifices to preserve freedom and the democratic principles that underpin a peaceful, productive and

dignified society."

She said the ceremony honored "the spirit of possibility and the hope set in motion by generations of women in their creation of communities and encouragement of dreams."

"These women worked to ensure an independent nation; they planted the fields, taught the children, wrote the books, gave the speeches and insisted on an end to inequality," she said. "And they demanded liberty, the right to organize, the right to vote and the right to share equally in the pursuit of happiness."

Fitzgerald said women of the past would be proud of women like retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaught, the driving force behind building the women's memorial. "Her vision to build this memorial will not only ensure that women are forever recognized as a critical and historic part of the woven tapestry of military service, but will also inspire others to dream and realize new possibilities for generations to come," Fitzgerald noted.

Women have come a long way in government since 1933, when then President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, at the strong urging of his wife, Eleanor, appointed the

first female cabinet secretary, Frances Perkins, as secretary of labor. Perkins was the champion for the national women's rights cause "Equal Pay for Equal Work," Fitzgerald noted.

Fitzgerald said the hopes and dreams of women in DoD are realized every day by the contributions of more than 220,000 women serving in civilian positions. This number represents more than a third of the total DoD workforce and more than 200,000 women serving on active duty.

"The great news in these numbers is that women are given the opportunity to achieve their dreams, and they are achieving firsts in many areas," Fitzgerald said.

DoD women serve in a remarkable array of positions: teachers,

"These achievements are possible because as a community we are better educated."

— Marilee Fitzgerald
Principal Director
for civilian personnel policy



firefighters, human resource specialists, air traffic controllers, tugboat captains, information technology specialists, scientists, engineers, prison guards, weapons system designers and secretaries, such as deputy undersecretaries, Fitzgerald said.

For instance, Fitzgerald said, they include women like Patricia Bradshaw, undersecretary of defense for civilian personnel policy, who presides over the personnel practices and policies for more than 700,000 DoD civilians.

They include women like Tina Jonas, undersecretary of defense (comptroller) and chief financial officer, who oversees DoD financial management activities including a budget of more than \$400 billion.

Fitzgerald also pointed to

Sheila Widnall's appointment as secretary of the Air Force in 1993, which made her the first woman to serve as an armed forces secretary. In 1998, Lillian Fishburne became the first African-American woman to put on the Navy star to become a rear admiral.

In June 2005, Sgt. Ashley Pashley of the Army Reserve's 40th Civil Affairs Battalion was one of five Soldiers awarded the first Combat Action Badge for her action during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Last month, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld appointed Leslye A. Arshlt as the deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy," Fitzgerald noted. "Leslye is one of the first DoD civilian woman to have served as part of the Iraq reconstruction effort. She was the senior advisor to Iraq's Ministry of Education. In June 2005, Ms. Arshlt was chosen to receive the Good Housekeeping Award for Women in the Government."

Noting that the percentage of woman serving in non-traditional occupations since 1995 has increased, Fitzgerald said, "In 2005, the ratio of female scientists has proportionally grown by

about 20 percent and the ratio of engineers by about 45 percent since 1995."

The percentage of women in grades GS-13 through senior executive service increased from 18.9 percent in 1995 to 28.1 percent in 2005. The ranks of the women in the SES positions grew by 62 percent since 1995, and women now hold 20 percent of DoD SES positions, Fitzgerald said.

"These achievements are possible because as a community we are better educated," Fitzgerald noted. "DoD civilian women have demonstrated an increase in the percentage of those holding bachelor's degrees or higher from 23 percent in 1995 to 32 percent in 2005, with 62 percent more women possessing masters degrees or above in 2005."

However, Fitzgerald said, even though those numbers are encouraging and women's accomplishments in DoD are beacons for others to follow, there's much work to be done.

"Women are underrepresented in science, technology, mathematics and engineering fields," she noted, and women still are underrepresented in DoD's senior executive service.

DAILY UNION
6 x 34.5"
Black Only
service directory



Post, Army news briefly

Post to observe 'Remembrance'

This year, the Days of Remembrance fall between April 23 and April 30, with the Fort Riley's observance scheduled from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. April 26 at Riley's Conference Center.

The theme for this year's commemoration is "Legacies of Justice" in honor of the courage of and the precedents set by those who testified during the trials of Nazi war criminals.

Guest speaker will be Dr. William Samelson, who was liberated by the U.S. Army after years of internment in labor and concentration camps throughout Poland and Germany.

Samelson wrote "Warning and Hope, Nazi Murder of European Jewry, A Survivor's Account." A book signing will follow immediately after the program.

For more information, contact a brigade equal opportunity advisor or the Division EO Office at 239-8433.

'Tribute' seeks family stories

Operation Tribute to Freedom is looking for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom Soldiers with siblings or children ages 9-12 interested in sharing personal stories of their father's, mother's or sibling's deployment. The stories will be used as part of an upcoming media outreach surrounding the Army's Birthday on June 14. Children would be asked to share their stories

and photos with pre-teen media outlets. Please respond with "Birthday" in subject line. Responses need to be to the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office by April 19.

New portal speeds ed aid

The eArmyU portal was replaced by the GoArmyEd portal April 1.

Soldiers will be able to request TA and register for courses online. Education Services at Fort Riley will be conducting postwide informational briefings for Soldiers at Barlow Theater at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. March 24 and 27.

For further information and to schedule briefings at unit level, contact an Army Education counselor at 239-6481 or 239-9485.

Army offers \$1,000 reward

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for indecent assault on a Soldier.

The incident occurred between 11 p.m. Feb. 7 and 1 a.m. Feb. 8 when an unknown person entered Building 8018 on Fort Riley and indecently assaulted a Soldier living on the second floor of the building.

Anyone with information should call Special Agent Emey Brantley at the Fort Riley CID office, (785) 239-3931.

'Mountain Lion' hunts terrorists

Coalition launches massive military operation in Afghanistan

AFPS

WASHINGTON — Coalition forces, in cooperation with the Afghan National Army, began "Operation Mountain Lion" April 11 to establish security, deter the re-emergence of terrorism and enhance the sovereignty of Afghanistan, military officials reported.

Afghan and Coalition forces killed six insurgents April 12 while conducting offensive operations in the Marawara district of Afghanistan's Kunar province.

Military officials in Afghanistan said Operation Mountain Lion is part of the Coalition's ongoing series of offensives that aim to disrupt insurgent activities, deny them sanctuary and prevent their ability to restock.

"This operation is helping the government of Afghanistan set the security conditions so democratic processes can take root," said Air Force Maj. Gen. Allen Peck,

deputy air component commander for Combined Forces Command Afghanistan. "Our job is to bring airpower to bear on the anti-Afghan forces and support the Coalition troops on the ground."

Operations April 12 began with predawn air-and-ground assaults in the Pech River Valley, an area notorious for terrorist activity, Combined Force Command Afghanistan officials said.

Soldiers from 3rd Brigade of the Afghan National Army's 203rd Corps are fighting alongside servicemembers from the Coalition's Task Force Spartan, made up of Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 10th Mountain Division and 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Marines from Task Force Lava.

More than 2,500 Afghan National Army and Coalition forces are involved in the operation.

"We're taking the fight to the terrorists in their own backyard," said Army Command Sgt. Maj.

James Redmore of Task Force Spartan. "They gave their victims no sanctuary. They'll receive none from us."

Coalition leaders described the operation as a comprehensive effort to kill, incapacitate or capture terrorists operating in the region. It will continue as long as necessary, they said.

Coalition targets remaining sanctuaries

"Together, with our ANA brothers-in-arms, we're eliminating the enemy's remaining sanctuaries in Kunar province," added Army Col. John Nicholson, Task Force Spartan's commander.

U.S. Air Force F-15s, A-10s and B-52s are providing close-air support to troops on the ground engaged in rooting out insurgent sanctuaries and support networks.

Royal Air Force GR-7s also are providing close-air support to Coalition troops in contact with enemy forces. U.S. Air Force Global Hawk and Predator air-

craft are providing intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, while KC-135 and KC-10 aircraft are providing refueling support.

"Our objective is to assist the Coalition forces and Afghan national security forces in defeating the Taliban and al Qaeda," Peck said. "The Coalition employs airpower every day to support Afghanistan's democratically elected government in establishing regional stability and long-term economic and political development."

Anti-terror efforts like this will extend the reach of the Afghan government, allowing legitimate governance to perform valuable work on behalf of the people in this region, Nicholson said. Stability and security will, in turn, permit nongovernmental aid and reconstruction organizations to work more efficiently.

Compiled from Combined Forces Command Afghanistan and U.S. Central Command Air Forces Forward news releases.

VA center helps veteran entrepreneurs

By Rudi Williams

AFPS

WASHINGTON — The organization that helps veterans become entrepreneurs by hooking them up with national franchises and contracts with industry and the federal government celebrated its fifth anniversary March 14.

The Center for Veterans Enterprise has helped hundreds of veteran entrepreneurs set up their

businesses or swell their company's coffers. Hundreds more have been helped to compete in the federal and private sector marketplace since the center was created five years ago.

"We touch between 5,000 and 6,000 veterans a month," said Scott F. Denniston, the center's director. "Most of those are people who call in or come and visit. We don't have the resources to track how many we actually help."

VA statistics show that 10 percent of the 23 million veterans in the United States are service-disabled. About 3.2 million veteran-owned businesses represent 14 percent of all businesses, according to the 2002 Census. VA officials said the 1992 Census reported that there were 4.2 to 5.5 million veteran business owners.

The center's staff of 15 people

fans out across the country to spread the word to active duty personnel and members of the National Guard and Reserve.

"Our goal is to make sure that when a veteran leaves the military, they know about the Center for Veterans Enterprise and the services we provide," Denniston said.

BROOKS YAMAHA
2 x 5'
Black Only
2x5 Brooks Crotch Rocket

STANDARD PLUMBING
2 x 5'
Black Only
2X5 Stand Plumb April

SETH CHILD CINEMAS
2 x 5.5"
Black Only
2X5.5 Seth Child Cinema Apr

LEGACY COMMUNITY CHURCH
2 x 7"
Black Only
2x7 Easter Service

LITTLE APPLE TOYOTA/HONDA
4 x 7"
RED 4X7 Litt App Toyota New





Post/Shirrett

Scary beauty

Above: A monstrous thundercloud slowly gives way to bright skies over Fort Riley's Outdoor Chapel April 6 after a storm passed over the area. The storm, which the National Weather Service called a "supercell thunderstorm," produced five tornadoes in Kansas. One tornado touched down 1.5 miles west of Clay Center and remained on the ground for 8 miles. It caused F1 damage, which is the second-lowest rating on the Fujita Scale.

Below: Layers of ice are visible in a hailstone remaining from the storm that passed over Fort Riley in the late afternoon of April 6. Hail as big as nickels fell on Fort Riley.



Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Servicemembers seriously injured by improvised explosive devices during duty in the global war on terror are getting a unique opportunity to use their experience to combat and prevent future IED attacks.

The Joint IED Defeat Organization has entered into full partnership with the Operation Warfighter program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in an initiative to target, recruit and hire servicemembers, including many who have suffered serious injuries from IED attacks.

Operation Warfighter is a nationwide program that places wounded servicemembers in positions within the federal government. Through this partnership, servicemembers can now continue their service to the nation working for the Joint IED Defeat Organization and possibly transition into government service or civilian positions in the same organization once they leave active duty.

"This is an opportunity for these true heroes to get back into the fight," said Army Sgt. Maj.

Clifford Lovejoy, who oversaw the recruitment and hiring of 22 Soldiers. Five of them are on staff at the Joint IED Defeat Organization, which was created in October 2003 as an Army task force to serve as the single focal point for all Defense Department IED defeat activities.

Using a balance of intelligence, training and technology, the organization wages a coordinated campaign to defeat current and future IED threats endangering joint and Coalition forces, officials said.

"This organization will certainly benefit from the presence, experience and competencies of recuperating OWF personnel who have been injured as a result of an IED attack," said Army Brig. Gen. Dan Allyn, the JIEDDO's deputy director. "They have firsthand knowledge of the threat and the challenges being faced in the theater. Synergies will be gained by having them integrated into the staff here."

The initiative also provides support services for servicemembers brought into the organization. JIEDDO supervisors oversee the transportation needs of each individual, arranging for necessary

parking and transit passes. More importantly, the work week is modified for each member to accommodate rehabilitation needs at Walter Reed.

"Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, I leave at lunch and spend the rest of the day at Walter Reed for rehab," said Army National Guardsman Lt. Col. Dennis Walburn, who started at JIEDDO Feb. 14 and was the second OWF volunteer to arrive. "I am thankful for this opportunity, because I realize that there are guys out there who have it worse."

Walburn lost his left leg above the knee as a result of an IED blast in Mosul, Iraq, in May 2005.

His treatment at Walter Reed moved into a less rigorous phase and he eagerly wanted to work in an area where he could continue to help the deployed troops. He then learned of the JIEDDO recruitment of IED survivors.

The JIEDDO recruiting effort

at Walter Reed began Jan. 17. After open advertising of the opportunities, 65 personnel were interviewed. From that original pool, 22 were selected. Those on staff are assigned to various positions in the organization where they contribute to the effort to defeat the IED threat.

Walburn is assigned to the Strategic Communications Division, where he is assisting in congressional affairs, public affairs and industry outreach initiatives. Although all of the 22 original selectees are from the Army, Lovejoy said, the program will grow and eventually include servicemembers from other services who are injured due to IED attacks.

"We are looking for the best, the brightest and the most capable to join the team," he said. "Getting all of the services involved allows us to merge this whole team into the best you can have to win the war on terror."

MILITARY OUTLET

2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2X3.5 Military Outlet

DAILY UNION

2 x 4.5"
Black Only
Rusty Club Classic

DEALERS FINANCIAL
6 x 10.5"
Black Only
2 color 1 roll up windows



Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, April 14, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Page 13

Community news briefly

Post residents to receive survey

Within the next couple of weeks, Fort Riley family housing occupants will be receiving a Resident Assessment Survey from Headquarters, Department of the Army.

The survey offers Soldiers and family members the opportunity to tell if their on-post housing needs are being met. The information they provide will help with future improvements for housing facilities and services. Answers are strictly confidential.

Answering the survey honestly will provide the Army information that can help make a difference.

Questions regarding the survey may be addressed locally to Derina Williams of the Housing Office at 239-3381 or 239-0660.

College fair planned on post

A college fair is being planned from 3 to 6 p.m. June 3 at the Fort Riley Teen Center, Building 5800.

Colleges expected to attend include Barton County Community College, Central Texas Community College, Kansas State University, Upper Iowa University and other local schools.

The fair will provide high school seniors and juniors information about each school's programs.

For more information, call 239-9222.

Child services offers classes

April 15 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Red Cross babysitting class

April 15 - 3 to 5 p.m., Home Alone Training or youth

For more information, call 329-9173.

Easter sunrise services set

Fort Riley's Community Easter Sunrise Service will be 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. April 16 at the Outdoor Chapel off 1st Division Road.

Morris Hill Chapel will serve as the alternate location in inclement weather.

Guest speaker for the service will be Rev. Diana Chapel of the United Methodist Church in Manhattan.

Refreshments will be served at the site immediately following the service.

For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Ted Parks at 239-5590.

Ranch offers horseback riding

Military families can sign up for horseback riding from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. May 6 at Sun Rock Ranch.

Cost is \$25 per person but may be increased by \$5 if the class isn't full.

Sign up at the Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 9011 on Rifle Range Road, or call 239-2363 by May 4.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Home wanted

Stray facility rescues dogs, cats

By Anna Morelock
Staff writer

"Beauty" was found locked in a dog carrier in a ditch near the Trooper Drive gate March 24. The 8- to 10-week-old Chow-mix had weathered a rain storm and spent four or five days in the wire-topped kennel.

"This is how Beauty was found," said George McNabb, stray facility manager at Fort Riley, holding out a photo of the waste-encrusted kennel with two empty dishes inside. She was "left for dead."

McNabb said when she pulled Beauty from the kennel, the puppy left four bloody footprints on the floor from urine burns to the pads of her feet.

"From what the vet said, she had to be standing in her own urine and fecal matter for at least four or five days for it to eat away at the pads of her feet," McNabb said. "It breaks our hearts."

The kennel she was trapped in showed signs of having weathered a rain storm two days earlier, giving Beauty's rescuers another idea of how long she'd been alone.

Episodes like this aren't too common at Fort Riley, McNabb said, but one episode is too many, and it happens everywhere.

"I figure if we educate these people, then when they move somewhere else, they can educate others and so on," McNabb said and stressed that situations such as Beauty's were completely unnecessary. "How someone could do that to her just completely blew our minds."

Some people get a puppy without thinking things through, McNabb said. In those cases, when the puppy starts chewing, barking in the middle of the night and having accidents in the house, the cuteness can where off quickly. If someone decides they



Post/Morelock
Dutchess, a 1 1/2-year old Husky, looks out from her kennel at the Fort Riley stray facility. Dogs, such as Dutchess, can be adopted at the facility in Building 226 for \$59. Cats are also available for adoption at the shelter.

See Adoption, Page 16

Army kicks off AER campaign

Army News Service

WASHINGTON - The annual Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign continues through May 15 with the slogan, "Soldiers Helping Fellow Soldiers."

The Fort Riley AER fund drive kickoff luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 18 at the 1st Brigade dining facility.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, will be the guest speaker.

Army Emergency Relief provides no-interest loans and grants to active-duty and retired Soldiers and National Guard and Reserve members who are active under Title 10 for 30 days or more, and their qualifying family members, for any emergency that results in a

financial need.

Examples include death or serious illness of an immediate family member, vehicle repair and utility or rent assistance.

AER also gives undergraduate-level scholarships to children of Soldiers and provides financial assistance to spouses through its Spouse Education Assistance Program.

Tax-deductible gifts may be

given directly to AER via allotment, or donors may make their contributions to the general assistance fund.

Donors also may target their contributions to such specific programs as scholarships or widow assistance.

AER was founded in 1942 as a nonprofit organization by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff.

Marriage & Military Life

Making the most of online dating

By Gene-Thomas Gomulka
Retired Navy chaplain

Dear Gene-Thomas, I've been e-mailing a Marine I met online who is currently deployed in Afghanistan. If it works out that we get together following his return, do you have any advice that could help us ... —Liz

About the author

Gene-Thomas Gomulka is a retired Navy chaplain and author of "The Survival Guide for Marriage in the Military."

Have a question? Write Gene-Thomas at letters@plaintec.net



In a recent article that appeared in the Washington Post Magazine, Stephanie Booth reported on a nine-month Internet relationship that developed between Melinda Jackson, a 40-year-old divorced mother of two from Santa Clara, Calif., and Corporal Joe Buchannan, a divorced Army medic deployed in Iraq. The article ended with their reunion at Fort Stewart, Ga., where, according to Ms. Booth, "four days after their first meeting, Joel and

Melinda seem to be adjusting amazingly well."

Where Melinda and Joel will be six months or a year from now is difficult to say. However, there are things that people can do who meet under these circumstances to help assess their potential for happiness together.

With the help of a relationship inventory, Melinda and Joel can learn a number of things about each other that they may not have discovered in the course of their

nine-month Internet relationship. While most inventories for dating and engaged couples need to be professionally administered and graded, there are some specifically designed for people in the military that are self-grading and can be obtained online without meeting with a counselor, chaplain or member of the clergy.

Inventories help answer certain

See Online dating, Page 14





Community news briefly

CAC to meet

The next meeting of the Community Action Council will be 10 a.m. to noon April 19 at Riley's Conference Center, Building 446, Seitz Drive, on Main Post.

Attendees will receive briefings on programs and activities at Fort Riley.

Future meetings are scheduled for May 15, June 13, July 18, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18 and Dec. 6.

For more information, call the Community Life Coordinator at (785) 239-9435 or stop by at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264, on Normandy Drive or send e-mail to site2665@riley.army.mil

SKIES offers guitar classes

Child and Youth Services' SKIES program offers guitar classes. Sessions of group guitar lessons will be offered from 7 to 8 p.m. and from 8 to 9 p.m.

The 7 p.m. class is for children 6 to 10 years old. The 8 p.m. class is for children 11 to 18 years old. Classes must have at least five and no more than 10 students signed up.

For more information, call Central Registration at 239-4847.

Online dating

continued from page 13

questions, such as "How well do you really know this person with whom you've been communicating?" "While you may have a number of things in common, what are some of your differences?" "How strong are you when it comes to communication, conflict resolution and finances?"

"What do you know about his or her family and friends?" "Does he or she have any bad habits or 'baggage' that might be too much for you to live with over the years?" "Do you both view marriage as a life-long and faithful commitment?" "Do you both want to have children?"

These are but a few questions people should be able to answer before saying, "I do."

A woman who was in the process of divorcing her husband said, "We love one another, but that's not enough." Even though love is a major reason that many people marry (more than financial, sexual or other reasons), it is often difficult to sustain if there are truly "irreconcilable differences" that tear a couple apart.

How can a woman continue to love her husband if she strongly wants to have children that he refuses to have? Would it not have been better for her to have discovered this critical difference before walking down the aisle?

Whether a person is dating someone via the Internet or a person who lives down the street, it's important to consider each partner's strengths and weaknesses before making a

commitment.

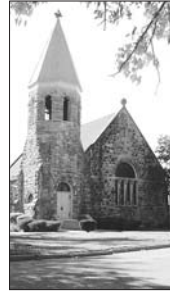
In addition to inventories that are designed to help couples critique their relationships, there are a number of programs and books that offer advice to military couples that can enhance their chances for life-long and happy marriages.

In so far as most Internet relationships will not lead a couple to the altar, you and your boyfriend in Afghanistan need to recognize that communicating over the Internet is only a first step in the relationship process.

If six seasons of "Sex in the City" taught one lesson, it's that dating, mating and relating with people like "Mr. Big" take time. Deployed personnel who are stressed, lonely and separated from family and friends, as well as individuals like yourself, who are communicating with them, would be wise to wait at least six months following a deployment before making any commitments.

While there are happily married couples that dated for a very short period before getting married, there are a lot more divorced couples that regret having rushed one of the most important decisions of their lives. Divorce rates in the military are already too high. Both military personnel and any civilians they may be dating should take care not to allow the Internet to make these rates any higher.

Protestant, Catholic Holy Week services scheduled



Post photo
Easter services at the Main Post Chapel will be held at the regular time, 10:30 a.m., Easter Sunday.

Protestant Holy Week Services

Main Post Chapel will conduct Easter services at the regular time, 10:30 a.m. No Sunday school will be offered on Easter Sunday.

St. Mary's Chapel will conduct a liturgical Protestant service at the regular time, 9 a.m., on Easter Sunday.

Kapaun Chapel will conduct a contemporary worship on Easter Sunday with communion at the regular service time, 11 a.m.

Morris Hill Chapel's Gospel congregation will conduct its regular service at 11 a.m. Easter Sunday.

Outdoor Chapel sunrise Easter service will be conducted from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

Catholic Holy Week Services

Morris Hill Chapel will conduct sacraments of reconciliation daily from 8:30 to 9 a.m. in the chaplain's office or by appointment anytime.

St. Mary's Chapel will conduct a Celebration of the Lord's Passion service at 6:30 p.m. on Good Friday, April 14. A sacrament of reconciliation will follow the service.

St. Mary's Chapel will conduct an Easter Vigil at 8 p.m. April 15 with Easter Mass and reception of new members and fellowship after Mass.

Morris Hill Chapel will conduct Easter services with a 9 a.m. Mass.

St. Mary's Chapel will conduct Easter services with an 11 a.m. Mass.

SALINA POWERSPORT
3 x 2.5'
Black Only
3x2.5 Salina Powersport

VALASSIS AFC
3 x 12'
Black Only
67870 aping calling cellular

4X4 LAND, INC.
3 x 2'
Black Only
3x2 4x4Land AprTF

DEVRY UNIVERSITY
3 x 10.5'
Black Only
3x10.5 DeVry





Community news briefly

Teen Center lists activities

April 14 – 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance

April 15 – 9 p.m. to midnight, midnight basketball

April 21 – 6 to 11 p.m., family movie night

April 22 – 3 to 4 p.m., youth sponsorship

April 22 – 6 to 11 p.m., Manhattan movie theater with snacks after

April 28 – 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance

April 29 – 6 to 9 p.m., family potluck and parent advisory meeting

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

Support Center lists activities

April 19 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Army Family Team Building classes: motivating factors and leader roles

April 19 – 1:30 to 3 p.m., orientation for those facing a permanent change of station to overseas areas other than Germany or Korea.

April 19 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Army Family Team Building classes

April 24 – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Spouse Activity Day

April 24 – 6 to 9 p.m., movie and popcorn

April 26 – 1:30 to 3 p.m., briefing for stateside permanent change of station

For more information, call the Soldier and Family Support Center at 239-9435.

Classes slated for teens' parents

Workshops have been scheduled at Fort Riley for parents with teenagers. The workshops will present information that will help parents strengthen relationships with their teens and help them help their teens to become responsible adults.

The workshops will be conducted from 6 to 8 p.m. at Building 7264, the Soldier and Family Support Center.

On April 17, the workshop will cover drugs, sexuality and violence as well as the power struggle between parents and teens.

On April 24, the workshop will cover responsibility and discipline as well as cooperation and communication.

On May 1, the workshop will cover prevention strategies for solving problems.

To sign up, call 239-9435 or visit a Family Advocacy Program representative in the Soldier and Family Support Center.

Army teen panel launches Web site

Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The Army Child and Youth Services' Army Teen Panel has launched Real Teens Connected, a Web site connecting youth from active Army and Reserve Components, as well as Department of Defense civilian youth around the world. Real Teens Connected is for teens ages 13 through 18. It offers

a variety of services to all Army affiliated youth, including scheduled chats, question and answer boards, a youth support service, news updates and relocation information.

To use the site, eligible youth must have an Army Knowledge Online account that is sponsored by parents, guardians or siblings.

Real Teens Connected is accessed through the Boys and

Girls Club of America Web site, www.bgcayouthnet.org. After registering at BGCA YouthNet and signing in, users should click on the menu tab "Army Teens" and then, in the authentication box, type in their AKO user name and password. Users will have the benefits of Real Teens Connected as well as access to all that BGCA YouthNet has to offer.

Real Teens Connected is spon-

sored and was created by Army Teen Panel members.

The Army Teen Panel is a group of teens that has created avenues for Army youth to communicate directly with the highest levels of Army leadership. ATP members are youth 14 to 18 years old. They have strong leadership skills and have the opportunity to make changes that impact Army affiliated youth world-wide.

The Army Teen Panel meets biannually to discuss major concerns that affect Army teens. At each meeting, ATP members work on projects to help resolve the concerns of Army youth.

Information provided by the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center Public Affairs Office.



IACH/Clark

Members of the MEDDAC NCO Fellowship group work on clearing brush and debris from the trail behind the First Territorial Capitol on Fort Riley.

MEDDAC NCOs clean up trail

By Jan Clark
IACH PAO

Ten hospital Soldiers went "wild" April 1, but in a good way.

They volunteered to clean up the Kaw River Nature History Trail behind the First Territorial Capitol on Fort Riley.

The cleanup preceded the reopening of the historical building and museum for the spring and summer tourist season. The Partners of the First Territorial Capitol hosted a cookout and general membership meeting that afternoon.

The trail behind the first territorial capitol museum was developed in the spring of 1986 to educate visitors about the area's plant life, wildlife and the history surrounding the museum and the

Kansas River.

"While the path provides signs of explanation of the plants and wildlife in the area, the fallen brush and debris obscured the path," said Sgt. First Class Robert Schatteles, member of the Irwin Army Community Hospital Non-commissioned Officer Fellowship group that did the cleanup. "We went in and cleared out that brush and debris and made the path recognizable again."

The fellowship was formed in 2004 as a way to promote esprit de corps among the hospital's noncommissioned officers.

The fellowship chooses a project each quarter to enhance relations between the local community and the military. Past projects included the refurbishment of Montith Heights Park by cleaning, painting and stabilizing the

park's equipment and repainting the Junction City Skate Park.

"The 10 members who participated Saturday did a great job. We are always, however, looking for more members. We welcome them. In fact, any MEDDAC Soldier, specialist promotable and above or any retired NCO is welcome to join," Schatteles said.

For more information about the fellowship, call Schatteles at 239-7273.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ABILENE
1 x 2"
Black Only
1x2 Heartland Lanix

HOUSE FILL AD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
1 x 2.5"
Black Only
1x2.5 1st Press Apr TP

CENTRAL MICHIGAN U/OCF
3 x 8"
Black Only
3X8 CMICHU WO#17700

MILITARY MEDIA
3 x 7"
Black Only
Fluent in KSR



Adoption

continued from page 13

made a mistake in adopting a pet, McNabb said she will gladly take it back at the facility.

Everyone wants puppies and kittens, McNabb said. Getting them adopted isn't the problem. The problem is when the animals are dumped in a park or by the side of the road where the owners may think a family will find the animal and take it in. That's not the case, she added.

Often, the animal isn't found; or when it is, it is too sick to be placed in a good home immediately.

On the concrete wall inside the kennel doors at Fort Riley, posters of animals the facility has helped stretch down the hall. McNabb pointed out photos of five kittens found together in a cardboard box in a ditch. They were emaciated, had heat stroke and fleas and ticks all over them, she recalled. Those kittens had a happy ending, but not all the photos remind McNabb of successes.

"When we find them days later and they're sick and they're injured, we have to hold them that much longer to get them healthy," McNabb said. "It takes up cages we could have other animals in. When we get full, we have to start euthanizing, and we don't want to do that."

If people take on an animal, they need to realize it is a living creature, McNabb said. A few days previously, McNabb said she had a Soldier come to the shelter to adopt a cat and then asked if he could bring it back in six months when he deployed. McNabb said she was stunned at his attitude toward the animal.

"People need to stop and think," she said. "When they take on an animal it's like taking on a child. A lot of people say 'well, it's just a dog' or 'it's just a cat.' OK, but it's a living creature and needs to be provided for."

The post stray facility doesn't make a profit, so all money goes to caring for stray animals and those up for adoption. If a pet owner finds that he or she can't care for a cat or dog, it can be

taken to the shelter. The shelter asks for a \$52 fee to help care for the animal while it is found a new home.

McNabb said she's had increased success in finding homes for stray animals since she started in her position about a year ago.

In 2003, the facility took in 715 animals and 277 of those were euthanized. "That's a lot," McNabb stated. Last year, 675 animals came to the shelter and only about 65 were euthanized. Those were mostly cases where the animals were diseased, injured or aggressive, she said.

Besides placing animals with families at Fort Riley, McNabb places animals on www.petfinder.com. She said she's had families from Colorado, Missouri and Oklahoma see animals on the Web site and come to Fort Riley to adopt them.

Dogs can be adopted for \$59 and receive their rabies and distemper shots, a heartworm test and a microchip before heading to their new homes. Cats also receive shots, but because the feline leukemia test is more expensive, it costs \$63 to adopt them.

"I love the happy endings," McNabb said as she looked at the wall of photos, "but I hate the beginnings."

Beauty is still working on her happy ending at a foster home arranged through the Riley County Humane Society. Because of her experience, she has some behavioral issues, McNabb said, but has been placed with a trainer who is helping to socialize her. Her next home will be screened to make sure she doesn't end up in that situation again.

"She's a survivor," McNabb said.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at anna.morelock@riley.army.mil or 239-3032.



Courtesy photo

Beauty looks much more cuddly the day after being pulled out of the crate, but she still wouldn't walk on her burned feet, McNabb said.

Hours and location

The Stray Animal Facility is located at Building 226 Custer Ave. on main post. Hours of operation for the stray facility are Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. To arrange an appointment call (785) 239-3886.



Post/Morelock

A stray cat waits for its owner at the stray facility. Strays not picked up within three days are put up for adoption.

Community news briefly

Stories feature spring animals

Spring animals will be the theme for April story times at the Post Library.

"Muncha Muncha" by Candace Fleming will be the story on April 15. It's a battle of wits between three hungry bunnies and Mr. McGreely, who tries to keep them from eating his fresh vegetables every night by building a bigger and better fence.

Story times are held at the library at 1:30 and 4 p.m. every Saturday. All military children and their caregivers are welcome to hear a story, make a take-home craft and have a light snack.

The Post Library is located in Building 5306 on Custer Hill. Operating hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call 239-5305.

Auto Center offers free checks

Deployed Soldiers' family members can get a free 25-point automotive check at the post's Auto Skills Center on Custer Hill. Individuals must show verification of their Soldier's or unit's deployment, and ID card and vehicle registration or title.

For more information, call the Auto Skills Center at 239-9764.

SAS plans spring carnival

School Age Services will host its spring carnival from 6 to 8 p.m. April 28.

The carnival will include a theater performance of "Harts and Tarts," the Boys and Girls Club's movie making project,

and other activities for children and parents.

For more information, call 239-9220.

FCC providers needed on post

More home childcare providers are being sought from among post residents.

Requirements to be a family child care provider include the successful completion of background clearances on all family members over age 12 living in the home, the ability to read, write and speak English effectively, the ability to interact with children in a loving, positive and developmentally appropriate manner, being 18 years of age or older and living in on-post housing.

Family Child Care holds an orientation meeting the second Thursday of each month from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Child and Youth Services, Building 6620. The next orientation will be May 11.

For more information, call the FCC representative at 239-9892.

Parents' council set to meet

The Parent Advisory Council at Fort Riley meets the first Thursday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. in the training room at Building 6620. The next meeting is May 4.

Meeting agendas include program updates and parent information. For more information about the council, call 239-9850.

Yard sale date set

The post-wide yard sale will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 6.

USAA CORPORATION- AFC
6 x 11"
Black Only
652035 he's proud of his truck





Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, April 14, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Page 17

Sports news in brief

BOSS plans golf tourney

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers at Fort Riley will host its "Rusty Club Classic" golf tournament at Custer Hill Golf Course April 21. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and tee time is 10 a.m. Registration fee is \$100 per team of four players, \$25 per member in grade E-1 through E-4 or \$40 for higher-ranking members and non-members. The tournament is limited to the first 36 teams to register. Deadline for sign-up is April 14 at the golf course. The tournament fee includes: prizes, golf carts, green fees, food and beverage and complimentary tee gifts. Mulligans are available for a fee. For more information call 239-8147.

Rec staff plans canoe trips

Authorized users of the Fort Riley Outdoor Recreation Center can sign up for upcoming canoe trips on the Kansas River. The trips total 10.3 miles from the U.S. Highway 24 Bridge to St. George. Participants should plan to be gone between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Trips are being planned for June 3 and 17, July 8 and 29 and Aug. 5 and 19. Cost per person is \$15, which includes rental fees for canoe, paddles and life vest and transportation to and from the Outdoor Recreation Center. Anyone interested should register at the Outdoor Recreation Center, 9011 Rifle Range Road. For more information, call 239-2363.

Youth fishing tourney set

A youth fishing tournament is planned from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 10 at Moon Lake on post. The tournament is open for children age 2 to 12 and teenagers age 13 to 19. A parent must be present while the younger children fish. Entry fee is \$5 per person. Prizes will be awarded for the largest fish by weight, largest fish by length and largest stringer of fish. The prizes will go to the top three winners in each of the two age categories. Prizes include a rod and reel, lures and coolers. Each entrant can use no more than two poles. Kansas fishing regulations for length and creel limit apply for the tournament. Entrants must register by June 8. To register, call 239-2363 or stop by the Outdoor Recreation Center, 9011 Rifle Range Road.

Youth camps scheduled

Fort Riley youth can register to participate in three sports camps this summer. A basketball camp is scheduled July 17-24, a soccer camp July 31 through Aug. 4 and a volleyball camp Aug. 7-11. The cost of each camp is \$25 per camper with current Child and Youth Services registration. For more information, call CYS at 239-4847.

Army basketball coach dies at 28



U.S. Army photo
Army Women's Basketball Coach Maggie Dixon guided the team to its first Patriot League regular season and tournament titles, earning West Point its first trip to the NCAA tournament at the Division I level.

Army News Service

WEST POINT, N.Y.— Army Women's Basketball Coach Maggie Dixon, 28, died April 6 at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, N.Y.

Coach Dixon collapsed April 5 during an afternoon tea and was taken immediately to Keller Army Community Hospital. She was then airlifted to Westchester.

West Point Superintendent Lt. Gen. William J. Lennox Jr. said the entire community is heartbroken by her death.

"From the time Maggie arrived here, her enthusiastic 'no limits'

approach earned her the respect and love of everyone," he said. "She consistently displayed great leadership and served as an outstanding role model for those both on and off her team. She was a leader of character with a commitment to excellence who set the example in all she did."

"Her joy in coaching these young women made them believe in themselves and depend on each other," said Army Athletic Director Kevin Anderson. "Her guidance not only helped them excel here, it will help them become better, more compassionate leaders."

That sentiment was echoed by one of the Army's star basketball players, guard Cara Enright.

"I just loved the energy that coach brought to practice every day and the way she never gave up on us, always believed in us," Enright said. "She would tell us to 'use what you've learned here at the academy and apply it to basketball'."

"Coach Dixon made us love the game even more, and we played our hearts out every single time we stepped on the court," Enright added. "She showed us how to be winners on the field and

See Dixon, Page 18

On the field

Airmen soccer players Zach Laird (second from right) and Jerome Colbert (right) defend against Infantry players Carlos Lozano (left) and Byron Garay (second from left) April 11 in Southern League action. The Infantry defeated the Airmen 3-0. *Post/Heronemus*



After two rainouts, Infantry scores win

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Weather canceled its two earlier games, but 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, debuted impressively in Southern League post-soccer play with a 3-0 win against 10th Air Support Operations Squadron April 11.

Both teams played short-handed, each starting with eight players. The Infantry gained two more players before the first half was too far gone, but the Airmen played with eight through the entire game.

Outmaneuvered and outmaneuvered, the Airmen spent most of the game defending their goal as well as kicking against a stiff wind blowing from southwest to northeast across the field adjacent to Rally Point.

The wind forced players to think twice about launching long, high arching kicks. Toward the end of the game, the Airmen kept reminding the goalie to kick into the wind after the wind had caught a couple of his kicks and sent them too close to the sideline or out of bounds.

The Infantry took only a couple of minutes to put the game's first score on the referee's card. Rodrigo Martinez sent a clear shot past the goalie from right in front of the net.

The Airmen's defense and a couple of offside calls kept the Infantry from scoring again in the first 25-minute half, but that defense was tested repeatedly. The Infantry aimed eight shots on the Airmen's goal, but none nestled in the net.

In contrast, the Airmen attempted four goals but each went wide or over the net.

Before a minute had passed in the second half, Carlos Lozano sent the ball neatly into the Airmen's net to boost the Infantry's lead to 2 points. Within four more minutes, Yoshico Paz imitated Lozano's effort for the Infantry's third score.

Offside penalties on Infantry players turned the ball over to the Airmen at least three times in the second half, helping the Airmen turn back repeated attacks on their goal.

In one close call, the Infantry took a penalty shot that hit the top bar, rebounded

See Soccer, Page 20

Texas track takes toll on military teams

By William Thurmond
Army News Service

FORT WORTH, Texas — The Texas Motor Speedway celebrated its 10th birthday this month with the running of the Sam-sung/Radio Shack 500 April 9.

Most of the military-sponsored NASCAR entries failed to receive invitations.

The notable exception was veteran Ken Schrader's Motorcraft/U.S. Air Force Ford, which finished on the lead lap in 16th place after starting in 32nd.

The race winner, Kasey Kahne, started on the pole and was rarely out of the top 10 all afternoon. He was followed across the stripe by Matt Kenseth, whose second place boosted him to second in

NEXTEL Cup championship points.

Finishing third was current Nextel Cup champion Tony Stewart, who led the most laps but was unable to test the strength of the front-stretch fencing due to Kahne's dominating five-second margin of victory.

Rookie Denny Hamlin rounded out the top four with a strong showing and career best finish.

After leading the early part of the race and lapping over half of the field, Greg Biffle's number 16 National Guard/Subway Ford was the second car out of the event following backstretch contact with former champion Kurt Busch's lap-down Dodge.

Biffle's crash brought out a race-stopping red flag as Texas Motor Speedway crews went to work repairing damage to the track's safety barrier, giving fans an unscheduled 24-minute refreshment break 125 miles into the 500-mile event.

Among those not seeking shade and a cooling beverage was Biffle's female companion. Following his wreck, she sought out Busch's fiancée on pit road for a few choice words, woman to woman.

Note to Jeff Gordon fans: She was not wearing a full-face helmet and HANS device.

Joe Nemecek suffered through an agonizing weekend, crashing his primary racecar on the first lap of practice April 7.

Although he qualified 17th-quickest, that run was the high water

mark for the Army team, who chased tight conditions through a staggering variety of chassis and tire pressure adjustments in an effort to loosen up the car.

"It's not the ideal situation when you can't use the best stuff you bring to the track," Nemecek said after the race. "We just never found a comfort zone with the backup Army Chevrolet."

"We were good soldiers again—never quitting," Nemecek said. "But we have to get this thing figured out and start the race with better handling. I have all of the confidence with our Army team that we'll get it going in the right direction."

Nemecek remained 25th in

See Racing, Page 19

Army wrestlers win title

All-Army team claims fifth championship

By Tim Hips

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — All-Army wrestlers won 40 of 42 matches and claimed their fifth consecutive Armed Forces Wrestling Championship March 23 and 24 at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The All-Army team that won 38 of 42 matches in the 2005 Armed Forces Championships was even more dominant this year, partially because former All-Air Force wrestlers Capt. Phillip Johnston and Spc. Aaron Sieracki switched services to wrestle for the Army.

They are the latest in a line of military wrestlers to join the Army squad in recent years. Former All-Marine grapplers Staff Sgt. Marcel Cooper, Sgt. Jess Hargrave, Sgt. Kevin Ahearn, Sgt. Albert Sankey and Spc. Timothy Taylor made the move from Quantico, Va., to Fort Carson, Colo. Capt. Neal Rodde left the All-Navy squad to wrestle for the All-Army team.

Ahearn, Sieracki, Johnston and Taylor won gold medals for the All-Army team in his action-laden 12 gold and two silver medals in this year's tournament.

Winning gold medals were: Capt. Eric Albarracín, Spc. Jermaine Hodge, Staff Sgt. James Johnson, Spc. Joshua Habeck, Sgt. Glenn Garrison, Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers, Spc. Aaron Holker and 2nd Lt. Phillip Simpson.

Pfc. Brandon McNab and Spc. Anton Talamantes earned silver.

Seven weight classes were contested in Greco-Roman and freestyle competitions in a round-robin, dual-match format. Army won the team title in both disciplines, followed by the Marine Corps, Air Force and Navy, respectively.

The last two U.S. wrestlers to win world championships are Soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program. Byers won the super heavyweight Greco-Roman world title in 2002 and Sgt. Iris Smith captured the women's 158.5-pound freestyle world crown in 2004.

The U.S. National Wrestling Championships, scheduled for April 14 and 15 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, is the next tournament for the All-Army team, which has won a national title in three of the past five years.

Tim Hips writes for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center Public Affairs Office.





Sports news briefly

Class teaches fishing skills

The Outdoor Recreation Center will offer a free class teaching bass fishing techniques April 27 at Moon Lake on post. Everyone 16 years and older may participate.

The class will teach about bass fishing in Kansas waters, tournament fishing strategies, tactics for catching more bass, tips for selecting tackle, ways to find more bass and insights into bass behavior.

To register, visit the Outdoor Recreation Center at 9011 Rifle Range Road or call 239-2363 or 239-6368.

Teen Center hosts family fit nights

Family fitness nights are scheduled from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. April 21, May 19, June 23, July 28 and Aug. 25 at the Fort Riley Teen Center, Building 5800.

The nights offer a free opportunity for parents and children to work out and exercise together in a high energy environment.

For more information, call the Youth Sports Office at 239-9223 or 239-9200.

Co-ed softball league forming

The Fort Riley Sports Department is organizing a co-ed summer softball league planned to run May 9 to Aug. 13.

The league is open to the active duty military, their spouses, Department of the Army civilians and contractors working on Fort Riley. Fort Riley housing areas, civilian directores and contracting companies are encouraged to form teams within their own organizations; however, eligible participants may combine in any fashion to make a team as long as the team composition meets the gender requirements.

A team must consist of 10 players (five male and five females) with the following position requirements: two males and two females in the infield and outfield, and one male and one female as pitcher or catcher.

The entry fee for this league is \$120, payable upon registration. Teams must register by April 28 at the Fort Riley Sports Office, Building 202, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

Ball sign-ups to begin

Sign-ups for youth T-Ball, baseball and softball for youth ages 5 to 13 is open noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday through April 28 at Central Registration in Building 6620. Practices will begin the week

of May 22. Games will begin June 5.

Registration fees are \$40 for the first child and \$32 for each additional child.

There is an \$18 CYS yearly registration fee for each child, up to a maximum of \$40 for the yearly family registration fee.

All participants must have a sports physical with them or on file at the time of registration. This form must be dated on or after July 31, 2005.

For forms or more information, call the Youth Sports Office at 239-9223 or Central Registration at 239-4847.

Youth swimmers sought for club

Swimmers in grades three through eight may register through April 28 to participate on a post swim club. If enough interest is shown, the club may become a USA Swimming team and compete throughout Kansas in December 2006 or May 2007.

Cost is \$20 per month. Swimmers can register at Central Registration in Building 6620.

For more information, call the Youth Sports Office at 239-9223 or 239-9200.

Golf course open for play

Custer Hill Golf Course is open for play 8 a.m. to dusk Tuesday through Sunday.

The golf club will host a Ladies Golf Clinic at 3 p.m. April 25.

For more information call 784-6000.

Spring golf tourney slated

The Garrison spring golf tournament is scheduled to tee off at noon May 12 at Custer Hill Golf Course.

The team scramble event will be limited to first 25 teams of four players to sign up. Entry fee is \$45 per person or \$180 per team. Club members may deduct \$10 from their fee.

Mulligans will be available at \$20 per team.

Price includes green fees, carts, food, limited beverages and prizes.

Junior golfers offered pro time

Three sessions of junior golf will be held for kids ages 5 through 18 at Custer Hill Golf Course. The sessions will be May 16 to June 27, July 11 to Aug. 15 and Aug. 29 to Oct. 3.

Golfers ages 5 through 10 will play from 5:15 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays. Golfers ages 11 through 18 will play from 5:15 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays.

The cost is \$60 for six weeks. Registration begins April 17. Ten spaces will be available in each class.



Post/Stairrett

Pfc. Jeffrey Velasquez relaxes by Milford Lake while fishing and joking around with his friends, Pfc. Jon Dorsey (standing) and Pvt. Alan Noe (sitting). The three Soldiers are in Co. A, 1st Bn., 28th Inf., and were participating in the "Black Lions" Single Soldier Program's fishing tournament. The three received a few bites, but didn't catch any fish. Sgt. Dale Pettay of 11HC won the tournament after catching a 13.5-inch bass.

'Black Lions' hook bass

30 Soldiers, one smallmouth bass participate in single Soldier fishing tourney at local lake

By Amanda Kim Stairrett
Staff writer

Thirty infantry Soldiers.

One lieutenant colonel armed with jig hooks.

A handful of newly purchased fishing poles.

Ten containers of night crawlers.

One fish.

Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, turned into anglers April 8 and spent the morning at Milford Lake participating in the Black Lions' Single Soldier Program's first fishing tournament.

Several hours of fishing netted only a few bites and a 13.5-inch smallmouth bass caught by Sgt. Dale Pettay, though two other Soldiers received special prizes.

Sgt. 1st Class David Dean, who did a fair share of trash talking early in the day, won a pink Barbie net for his fishing skills.

"Sgt. 1st Class Dean thinks of himself as a fishing pro, but he only hooked two rocks from the lake bottom," said Lt. Col. Patrick Frank, battalion commander.

Pfc. Christopher Dominguez won the Aquaman Award after he fell into the 48-degree water.

What did he learn?

"Don't answer your cell phone while fishing," he said.

Pettay said he fishes just about every weekend, mostly on post and at Milford. He knew where to find the fish. He didn't hook his prize-winning catch where the other Black Lions were fishing at the Northern Overlook. He and his friend, Sgt. Brandon Roe of the 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, drove to the other side of Milford's dam, a move other Soldiers deemed cheating.

Though the fish weren't biting, Frank said the event was successful because it introduced the Soldiers to things they could do in their free time and helped build camaraderie — the goal of the Black Lions' Single Soldier Program.

Company A First Sgt. Jeffery Griffith set up the event and chaplain's assistant Spc. Jeshua Screws provided battalion assistance.

The fishing tournament was the third event in the program. Sol-

diers attended a Kansas State University versus Oklahoma basketball game and the Kansas State University Rodeo. Soldiers are encouraged to suggest events they would like to attend, and Frank said future trips to a Kansas City Royals game, Kansas City Chiefs game and NASCAR race were possibilities.

The program is awesome, Pfc. Jeffrey Velasquez said. "It provides a lot of stuff to do so we can actually get out of the barracks," the 19-year-old exclaimed.

Velasquez said much of his free time is spent sleeping, watching movies, practicing shooting, playing video games or going to a restaurant, something his buddies, Pvt. Alan Noe and Pfc. Jon Dorsey, teased him about as they sat by the lake hoping for a bite.

The tournament was Velasquez's first single Soldier event and his first time fishing at Milford, he said, and it is something he would definitely do again.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil or 239-3977.

Dixon

continued from page 17

off."

That winning legacy will always be remembered, Lennox said. "Maggie has been a credit to herself and to the mission of the U.S. Military Academy. Her presence here enriched the lives of everyone," he added. "I will never forget the image of the cadets carrying her on their shoulders as they celebrated the team's Patriot League championship."

"Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and we will be forever grateful for all she has given us, both on the playing field and off," Lennox said.

Dixon arrived just 11 days before the start of the season and took over as coach of the Army women's basketball team. She guided them to their first Patriot League regular season and tournament titles, earning West Point its first trip to the NCAA tournament at the Division I level in 2006.

Dixon became the Black Knights' seventh head coach in the history of intercollegiate women's basketball history at West Point after serving five years as an assistant coach at DePaul University.

Information provided by the U.S. Military Academy Public Affairs Office.

HOUSE FILL AD

PATRICIA'S UNDERCOVER

1 x 4"

Black Only

1st Patricia's Apr TF

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

1 x 3"

Black Only

1x3 Lighthouse Christ Apr TF

COTTONWOOD THEATERS

1 x 3"

Black Only

1x3 Cottonwood TF

MWR

3 x 5.5"

Black Only

3x5.5 MWR/ Baeter Ad

GEARY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

3 x 5.5"

Black Only

3x5.5 Pregnant Military Dep.



19th PAD/Thacker

The Colt League's team the "Bulldogs" and team "Purple" kick-start the youth soccer season with their first game April 8.

Youth soccer begins

By Jennifer Thacker

19TH PAD

Parent cheering filled the cool, sunny atmosphere April 8 as their children began spring soccer play at the youth fields adjacent to Colyer Manor on Fort Riley.

The Colt League's Bulldogs and Purple teams faced each other in the opening game. Many other leagues and teams played later.

"The first game went very well," said Bulldogs Coach Amanda Cheatwood, coach for the Bulldogs.

"The kids picked up a lot and their skill level increased since the first practice. It's a great environment and a great team building event," said Brian Wright, one of the Bulldogs' assistant coaches. His wife, Jamie, is also an assistant coach.

Practices began March 27. The season ends May 20.

Forty-eight teams, 28 of them on post and 20 teams off post, are scheduled to play this season. That will put about 695 kids on the soccer fields, said Danny Durkee, youth sports and fitness director.

Teams are divided into four leagues. Each team will play eight games, Durkee added.

The off-post teams come from Wakefield, Junction City, Osgen, Chapman, Milford and Herington. "They pay the playing fees to their town and play in our league," he said.

The youth soccer program is put together by Fort Riley's Child and Youth Services every year. "I have been doing this for 12 years and soccer in itself has been going on at Fort Riley for 18 to 20 years," Durkee said.

"I think it's a great community service that we do to get people to come to Fort Riley. It

gives kids a chance to play other kids outside of Fort Riley," Durkee said. "Every team plays at least one game off post, so the kids get a chance to take a little trip," he added.

The majority of the games are held on Fort Riley, Durkee said. The other games are held in Milford and Wakefield.

Durkee said players are divided into four different age groups. The Colt League includes kindergartners and first-graders, the Pinto League has second- and third-graders, the Mustang League includes fourth- and fifth-graders and the Bronco League is reserved for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.

"From there, I try to divide the teams up by neighborhoods, so that the parents can carpool if they want to," Durkee said.

Coaching is crucial for these age groups, so Durkee likes to have at least two coaches per team. He said almost half the coaches are spouses of active duty servicemembers and the other coaches are active duty servicemembers.

Durkee also has the task of finding referees for each game. "Most of the referees are high school students and some adults who have experience and training," he said.

"My hopes for this season are that the kids, from the first practice to the last game, will improve," Durkee said.

"They have fun. I want the parents and coaches to keep it fun for the kids. The program is designed to be low stress. We don't keep track of standings because we don't want to defeat the purpose of the win-win philosophy of youth sports. Hopefully everyone has fun at both practices and games and will want to come back again," he added.

THE COLUMBIAN THEATER
2 x 7"
Black Only
2x7 Columbian Camelot

Nature's engineers once 'trapper's gold'

By Alan Hynek

Fish and wildlife biologist

Beavers do more to shape their landscape than any other species of wildlife. Fascinating for their engineering qualities, these mammals are literally capable of changing a stream's course.

From the rise of the stream, fish, frogs and herons benefit, creating a small wetland. As the trees are cleared and a dam created, the stream is transitioned to a wet savannah type habitat.

If ample food is available, a beaver family may inhabit the area for many years. When food becomes scarce, the beavers will move to a new location. The dam will deteriorate, leaving a uniform layer of silt that soon gives rise to green meadow and eventually to new forest.

Not so long ago, beavers were referred to as "trapper's gold." During the fur trading era (1800-1840), adventurous men risked the elements and Indian attacks to get their hands on a beaver. Fur trading was literally the catalyst that opened the frontier.

Beaver trapping, in particular, played a large part in the settle-

On the Wildside: News About Nature



Alan Hynek

Want to know more?

For more information about wildlife or Fort Riley natural resources, visit the Conservation Office at Building 1020 or visit its Web site at www.riley.army.mil/Services/Fort/Environment/NatResources.

ment of the western United States. Individual beaver pelts were important bartering items. Common equivalents for one tanned and stretched beaver pelt were two pounds of sugar, a gallon of brandy, two yards of flannel, a pair of breeches, a pair of shoes, 20 flints, eight knives, two pair of looking glasses, two hatchets, 20 fish hooks or a blanket.

Four tanned beaver pelts would fetch a pistol and 11 beaver pelts could be traded for a musket. The demand for beaver pelts was so great during the late 1800s that beavers came close to becoming

extinct in North America.

After the decline in the fur trade, beavers began to grow in numbers and were considered a nuisance by many, particularly to farmers.

Although fur trapping continued in the 20th century, beavers were able to rebound over most of North America with harvest restrictions in place. While most fur prices have dropped in recent years because of low demand, the drop in the value of beaver pelts has not been as drastic.

The beaver is a member of the family rodentia, which is group of

mammals that gnaw. They use their four front teeth, big chisel-edged incisors, to fell trees. It takes only a few minutes for this determined animal to cut down a small willow tree. Sometimes a beaver will tackle trees as wide as two feet.

The beaver's favorite trees are the softwoods like aspen, poplar and willow. It also will cut down birch, sugar maple, wild cherry, alder and sometimes hemlock and pine. The beaver uses the felled trees as building materials and food.

Beaver pairs mate for life. The two will live together unless one of them dies. The female gives birth in the spring, usually litters of two to six kits.

Their incisor teeth grow continually throughout their life, so they must continuously gnaw.

Beavers range in weight from 30 to 80 pounds with some weighing more than 100 pounds. One of the largest beavers trapped in Kansas was just north of Fort Riley and weighed 109 lbs.

Beavers are well adapted to move on land and in water. They are able to hold their breath for up to 15 minutes under water.

Racing continued from page 17

the driver point standings, one position better than where he was last year at this time.

Leaving Texas, Nemechek maintained the longest active streak of finishing races. Starting at Bristol (Tenn.) in March 2005, he's been running at the finish in 39 consecutive races.

"I feel the streak says plenty about the group of people I work with," Nemechek. "In the past year, we've had some banged up cars, but if the damage is salvageable, you know we'll get it temporarily fixed and be back on the track."

The Nextel Cup Series has Easter weekend off. The action resumes the following week at Phoenix International Raceway, where Nemechek and his fellow drivers will take part in special military appreciation festivities planned by the track and NASCAR.



Joe Nemechek's Army Chevrolet races for position entering turn one with Ken Schrader's Motorcraft/U.S. Air Force Ford. Schrader finished on the lead lap in 16th place after starting in 32nd, the best run of the three military-sponsored entries in Sunday's event.

ANS/Thurmond

AFTER DARK VIDEO

2 x 7"
Black Only
2x2 Aft Dk Video Pub TF

FLINT HILLS VETERINARY HOSPITAL

2 x 2"
Black Only
Dog vaccination clinic

MERCY REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER

4 x 8"
Black Only
4x8 Mercy Regional Zoo Ad



Soccer

continued from page 17

right in front of the net and would have been an easy score had not the goalie and two other Airmen created a human barrier that repelled the rebound scoring attempt.

In the second game April 11, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, defeated 331st Signal Company 3-1 in Northern League play.

In other Northern League action, SJA/CID won by forfeit

against 97th Military Police Battalion April 10. The April 6 game between 70th Engineer Battalion and 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, was canceled because of weather.

In earlier Southern League action, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, defeated 610th Brigade Support Battalion 7-0 April 10. The game between 1st Bn., 16th Inf., and 1st Engineer Battalion was canceled because of weather.

Upcoming games:

In Northern League action, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, plays 331st Signal Company at 7 p.m. April 17; SJA/CID plays 70th Engineer Battalion at 6 p.m. April 18; 70th Eng. Bn. plays 331st Sig. Co. at 7 p.m. April 20; and 1st Bn., 5th FA, plays 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, at 6 p.m. April 24.

In other Southern League action, Meddac/Dentac plays 1st Engineer Battalion at 6 p.m. April 17; 1st Eng. Bn. plays 10th Air Support Operations Squadron at 7 p.m. April 18; 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, plays Meddac/Dentac at 6 p.m. April 20; and 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, plays 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, at 7 p.m. April 24.

Northern League Standings

(as of April 11)

Team	W	L
331st Signal	0	3
97th MP	1	2
1st Bn., 5th FA	1	0
2nd Bn., 70th Armor	0	0
SJA/CID	2	0
70th Eng. Bn.	1	0

Southern League Standings

(as of April 11)

Team	W	L
Meddac/Dentac	0	1
1st Bn., 16th Inf.	1	0
10th ASOS	0	3
2nd Bn., 34th Armor	2	0
1st Eng. Bn.	0	0
610th BSB	2	1

HOUSE FILL AD

VERNON JEWELERS
2 x 5"
Black Only
2x5 Repair ad

ALCO
2 x 7"
Black Only
2x7 Rug Sale

Classified Runover
4 x 21.25"
Black Only







Travel & Fun in Kansas

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America's Warfighting Center

Friday, April 14, 2006

Leisure time ideas

At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

April 7 — Firewall (PG13) 105 Min

April 8 — Eight Below (PG) 120 Min

April 9 — Freedomland (R) 113 Min

April 13 — Eight Below (PG) 120 Min

April 14 — Date Movie (PG13) 83 Min

April 15 — Madea's Family Reunion (PG13) 99 Min

April 16 — Date Movie (PG13) 83 Min

April 20 — Running Scared (R) 124 Min

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Get away and explore Kansas. Check out details on these and other events on the Kansas Travel and Tourism Web site, www.travelKS.com.

Wakefield

What: Kansas Birding Festival. Features guided birding trips and seminars, trips.

When: April 28 to 30.

Where: Registration and check in at 600 Elm St., Wakefield, Kan., United Methodist Church.

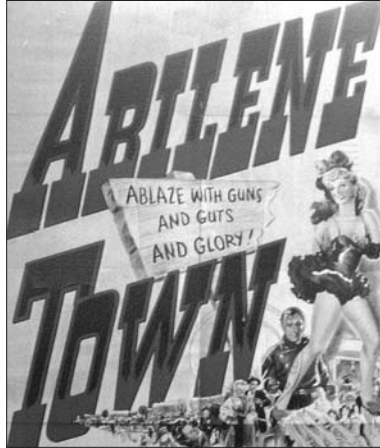
Cost: \$75 per person, includes choice of guided field trips, three Saturday seminars, Friday evening finger foods and networking, breakfast buffet on Saturday and Sunday, Saturday evening banquet.

Phone: (785) 461-5519

Web site: www.kansasbirdingfestival.org

JON MURDOCK AUTO MALL
3 x 10"
Black Only
3x10 Murdock M8#2

Movie premiered in Abilene to play again 60 years later



Courtesy photo
A movie poster for the western movie that premiered in Abilene 60 years ago. The movie will play again April 17 at the Eisenhower Center.

Special to the Post

In January 1946, actor Randolph Scott, accompanied by actress Ann Dvorak, drove a team of horses hitched to the old Union Pacific stagecoach down Buckeye Street for the premier opening of the movie "Abilene Town" at the Plaza Theater in Abilene, Kan.

The movie will once again be shown in Abilene, this time at the Eisenhower Center, at 7 p.m. April 17.

Blair Tarr, a museum curator with the Kansas State Historical Society since 1985, will be on hand to comment about the movie before the showing. Tarr researched an exhibit now on display at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka, Kan., entitled "Blazing Guns and Rugged Heroes" that depicts Kansas as portrayed in western movies and on early television.

"The tame are taking over Abilene, and they're tougher than you think," says Marshal Dan Mitchell, portrayed by Scott in the movie. "There are other equally great lines in the film," said Dan Holt, director of the Eisenhower Center.

"According to the Kansas Museum, five western movies used Abilene in the title, but this is

If you go:

What: "Abilene Town"

When: 7 p.m. April 17

Where: 200 SE 4th St.

Phone: (785) 263-6700 or (877) RING IKE

Web site: <http://eisenhower.archives.gov>

Admission: Free

the only one that premiered in Abilene. This is a classic of the 'B' western genre, the westerns that many will remember where the horses could run for what seemed like hours, often passing the same rocks and trees several times in the same chase scene. While not necessarily historically accurate, they were entertaining. I invite everyone to come prepared to boo the villain and cheer the hero," he said.

The public is invited to attend and enjoy a free evening at the Eisenhower Center. The movie will be shown in the Visitors Center auditorium at 7 p.m. with free popcorn and soda.

To reserve a seat, call (785) 263-6700 or (877) RING IKE.

Acoustic series continues

Manhattan Arts Center

The Manhattan Arts Center BirdHouse acoustic music series presents Susan Werner on at 8 p.m. April 22.

In the tradition of Gershwin, Porter and Kern, Susan Werner adds a new chapter to the Great American Songbook.

Werner writes new songs in an old way. Called "a clever songwriter and an engaging performer" by the New Yorker, Werner's latest album, "I Can't Be New," was released to rave reviews.

The Boston Globe reported, "Her new songs feel like they were pulled straight from the American songbag, shimmering with melodic elegance, urbane romanticism and sly, sexy wit." An outgoing songwriter and performer, Werner's sultry voice and witty lyrics will touch everyone who hears them.

Tickets for the performance can be purchased at the Manhattan Arts Center, The Dusty Bookshelf in Aggieville, Claflin Books & Copies, at the door or by phone at (785) 537-4420.

Bell choir to perform at Manhattan Arts Center

Manhattan Arts Center

Ring into spring with a performance from First United Methodist Church's handbell choir, The Rhapsody Ringers. The group will present a concert at 8 p.m. April 21 at the Manhattan Arts Center.

Bell choirs have been a part of the tradition of the First United Methodist Church since 1965. The Rhapsody Ringers was founded in 1978 by director Joan Shull. Upon Shull's retirement after the 1991 season, the baton was turned over to Judy Schramm.

The Rhapsody Ringers have been featured at American Guild of English Handbell Ringers festivals, Kansas Music Educators Association conventions and

Handbell Exploration events.

The group also performs each year with the KSU Choir's Holiday Festival of Music and the KSU Glee Club's Christmas Concert, as well as many weddings

and community events.

For more information on this and other performances at the Manhattan Arts Center, visit its Web site at www.manhattanarts.org.

USA DISCOUNTERS
3 x 10.5"
Black Only
BLJR/PU 3/31/06